



SNAPPINGER ADVANCED WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (AWTP) PHASE II EXPANSION

Frequently Asked Questions

May 22, 2017

Q. What is the purpose of the Snapfinger AWTP Phase II Expansion?

A. Phase II of the Snapfinger AWTP Expansion will improve wastewater treatment and increase capacity to 54 million gallons a day to support DeKalb County's increasing sewer needs.

Q. What are the benefits of this project?

A. Snapfinger AWTP Phase II Expansion will improve DeKalb County's wastewater treatment process and deliver cleaner, higher-quality water into the South River. In addition, the project will ensure treatment capacities that will support future growth of the county. The project will also help reduce the current level of noise, odor and light produced by the treatment plant and surrounding community.

Q. What construction activities will be included in Phase II of the Snapfinger AWTP Expansion?

A. Now underway, Phase II of the project will consist of final site preparation and construction of the main location, its major processing facilities and the administration building. Power-reducing equipment and lighting, as well as processes to minimize chemical and operation costs, will also be incorporated during this phase.

Q. What is the process of blasting?

A. Blasting is a construction process utilizing controlled explosives that break down or shatter large hard rock so that it can be easily removed. Blasting can result in ground vibrations and air-over pressure (noise) that might be felt and heard.

Q. When will Phase II blasting take place?

A. The next round of Phase II blasting will begin this spring and will continue through the summer 2017.

Q. What are the blasting hours?

Blasting may occur between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding major holidays.

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Q. How will blasting affect me?

A. You may hear the blast and/or feel the vibration. A test blast conducted in the affected area created vibrations well below project specifications. Tremors will feel similar to those of a heavy truck on a roadway. Also, contractors will continue to monitor blasting impacts using seismic monitors placed throughout the surrounding community.

Q. What if I am sensitive to loud noises?

A. Blasting may occur between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. You should prepare for loud noises or slight ground movement at any point during that timeframe. Some may desire to leave the blast zone during this timeframe. Residents with disabilities or conditions that require special accommodations may contact the Community Outreach team at 1-800-986-1108 or Projectinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov for assistance.

Q. What should I do if I believe project blasting has caused damage to my home or business?

A. Damage claims related to Phase II blasting will be handled by the project contractor, Archer Western. To file a claim, property owners must complete and submit a “Blasting Damage Complaint Form” to: Clay Strovinskas (cstrovinskas@walshgroup.com) as quickly as possible after the blast. A third-party insurer, not affiliated with DeKalb County, will contact property owners to complete the claim investigation within 30 days of receipt.

Q. Who can I contact if I have additional questions or need more information about blasting or the Snapfinger AWTP Expansion Phase II project?

A. Additional information, including a video of the blasting process, is available on the Snapfinger AWTP Expansion page of the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) web site at: www.dekalbwatershed.com. For personal assistance, you may contact the DWM Project Information line at: 1-800-986-1108 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or email: projectinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov.

Citizens also may request project updates at: projectinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov.

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