

Nonpoint Source and Green Infrastructure Planning in the Atlanta Region

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Abstract. While much work has been completed to address many of our Region's water quality challenges, much more work remains to be done. Nonpoint source pollution (NPS) continues to impact the Region's water resources. Many sources and solutions for NPS are beyond the scope of regulations, but are still in need of better management. In light of this need the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MWRPD) will during its 2016 plan update work will develop strategies that begin to outline how we address NPS as a region. This strategy, at a minimum, will identify potential NPS sources, recommend strategies, management practices, goals, and metrics for addressing NPS, and highlight available resources for addressing NPS pollution. To further support this effort, the MWRPD will also develop a strategy to address Green Infrastructure (GI) at a regional scale. This strategy will, at a minimum, identify barriers and opportunities to GI, discuss high-level costs and benefits, include discussions of regional GI beyond stormwater, and make recommendations for overcoming barriers to regional GI. While these strategies will not provide for new requirements to regional jurisdictions, they will provide a first step in how the region approaches both the challenges and opportunities associated with nonpoint source management and green infrastructure implementation. An overview of expected outcomes from the development of these strategies and potential future considerations will be discussed.