



ACCG Natural Resources and the Environment Policy Committee Meeting

August 12, 2026

Houston County Extension Office – 2030 Kings Chapel Road, Perry, GA 31069

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 pm

Presiding:

Honorable Myra Exum
Committee Chair
Commissioner, Brooks County

Honorable Sharon Cobb-Flanagan
Committee Vice Chair
Commissioner, Dodge County

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Myra Exum and Vice Chair Sharon Cobb-Flanagan

Presentations:

1:05 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Department of Agriculture - Invited

1:15 p.m. 1:25 p.m.

Southern Environmental Law Center

April S. Lipscomb, Senior Attorney

- Current State of PFAS Litigation and Recent Legislative Proposals

1:25 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.

Georgia Association of Water Professionals

Jennifer Flowers, Manager of Leadership Development Programming and Member Relations

- Current Issues Facing Georgia's Water and Wastewater Systems

2026 Legislative Session Recap:

Legislation that Passed:

- HR 1008 – State-Wide Water Management Plan Reform.
- HB 956 – Authorizes Use of the Solid Waste Trust Fund for Solid Waste Management.
- HB 983 – Clarifies Exemptions for Certain Local Burn Notices for Prescribed Burning.
- HB 1277 – Increases Project Cost Threshold for Public Roads or Airports.
- SB 447 – Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Permitting, Procedures on Denials and Automatic Approvals.

Legislation of Interest that Failed to Pass:

- HB 1133 - Authorize GEFA to Finance Solar Panels on Closed Landfills
- HB 812 - Local Government Permitting Limitations & Mandated DCA Approval
- HB 1182 – Restrict Applications of Soil Amendments Near Public Roads
- SB 437 - Third Party Inspections & Permitting Timeline Revisions
- SB 577 - Removes Local Governments Ability to Bring Civil Action on PFAS

2027 ACCG Policy Priority Discussion:

Review and Recommend Edits to the Committee's Policy Platform
NRE Recommendations ACCG's 2027 Policy Priorities