



Chatham County Board of Commissioners  
124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

**News Release**  
**March 11, 2018**  
**For Immediate Release**

### **Blockage in Sewer Main Causes Leak**

CHATHAM COUNTY, GA (March 11, 2018) – On the afternoon of March 10, 2018, Chatham County was notified by local residents of a sewer manhole that was overflowing into a storm drain entering Herb Creek. Chatham Utility Management, LLC, a contractor for the County, investigated the situation and inspected the sewer collection system to determine the cause of the overflow. Chatham Utility Management determined that the overflow was due to a blockage in a sewer main. Through calculations based upon the maximum flow over the entire time of the event, we estimate the spill to be up to 580,000 gallons.

The blockage has been cleared and repairs were made on March 11, 2018. Coordination with the Chatham County Health Department and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division is ongoing to monitor the water quality in Herb Creek. We recommend residents avoid swimming or fishing in the Herb Creek until further notice.

If you have specific questions regarding potential environmental impacts, please contact the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, or the Chatham County Health Department. Points of contact for Chatham County Public Works are Bert Matthews at [BEMatthews@chathamcounty.org](mailto:BEMatthews@chathamcounty.org), and Robert Drewry [rwdrewry@chathamcounty.org](mailto:rwdrewry@chathamcounty.org) or (912)652-6842, or Chatham Utility Management, the County's contractor for operations, at (912) 352-9339.

###

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
**Catherine Glasby**  
**Public Information Office**  
**Chatham County**  
**912-652-7897**