Education associated with the On-Site Waste Treatment industry at the University of Georgia

> Gary L. Hawkins Crop and Soil Science Department University of Georgia 2022 Mega-Conference November 1, 2022 Springfield, MO



# Disclaimer

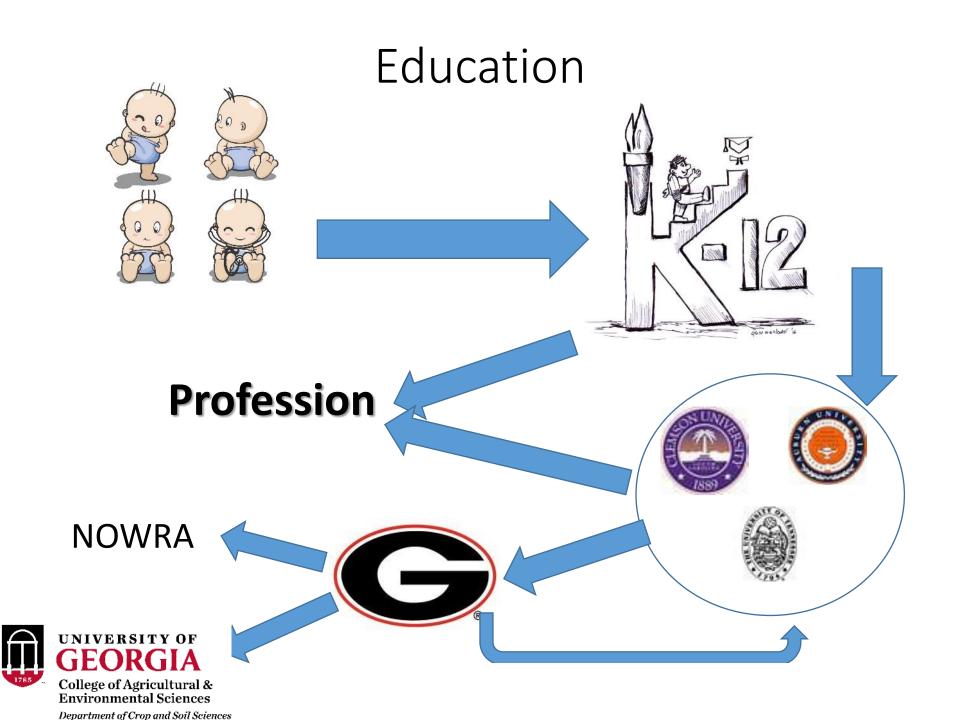


The comments of this guy and what is stated in this presentation is that of the speaker only and not of NOWRA!



# Outline

- Education idea
- Field Days
- Event Presentations
- School based education
- Extension outreach
- Conclusion



# What does education look like?

# Field Days

- Working with groups like:
  - Georgia Onsite Wastewater Association (GOWA)
  - American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE)
  - Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)
  - Soil Science Society of Georgia (SSSGA)











# Field Day Location – Griffin, GA



(1) Pre-cast Septic Tanks

(2) ATU Basics

(3) EZ Flow & Chamber Installation Requirements and Septic Stack

(4) Geotextile Sand Filter

(5) 811 – Damage Prevention

(6) Alarm Station

(7) Relating Soil Hydraulic Conductivity to Percolation Rates & How to Measure in the Field

(8) Drain Field Configuration

# GA On-Site Field Days





Designed for:

- Installers
- Pumpers
- Designers
- Regulators
- Extension Agents
- Homeowners

# Department of Public Health Training







• Athens Water Festival Meets MS4 requirement but gives a good platform for Septic Education





#### Athens Water Festival



Working model of septic system and using it for education

#### • Athens Water Festival





#### • Athens Water Festival





• Athens Water Festival



• 4-H2O Camp







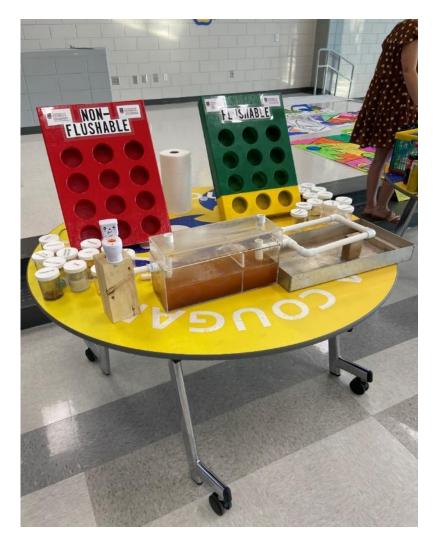
#### Cross Sections of Approved Systems in Georgia

- Local Community Events
  - County Board Meetings
  - Community Fairs
  - Others you can think of?



# School based Events – K-12 schools

• Josie took this into the school as a program



# School based Events - University

- A freshman
  Seminar
- 4 weeks of On-Site Wastewater Management



# **Extension Outreach**

• Website https://site.extension.uga.edu/water/on-site-waste-treatment/

#### Water at UGA

Provided by the UGA/CAES Water Resources Team

Home Drought

On-site Waste Treatment

Stormwater Water Conservation

on Water Quality & Quantity

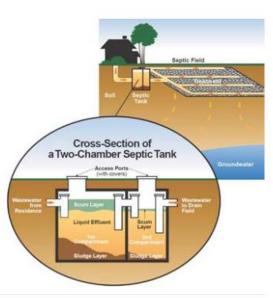
Well Water

Search this website

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#### **On-site Waste Treatment**

On-site waste treatment, or septic system, is the management of household produced wastewater that is flushed or rinsed down the drain. The wastewater produced in many homes is not pumped or gravity transported to a wastewater treatment plant, but rather enters a septic tank on the same property as the home. This site will provide some information about on-site waste treatment and how to take care of the on-site waste treatment (or septic) system. The following image was copied from the Utah State University Extension webpage on Water Quality and shows the major parts of the septic system.



#### Partners Resources

#### Water @ UGA (UGA Water Faculty)

- Instruction
- Research
- Classes

#### Agricultural & Environmental Services Labs

Household Water Quality
 Publications

GA Department of Public Health

- Well Water
- Wastewater Management

#### **GA Environmental Protection Division**

 2018 Altamaha/Suwanee-Satilla/Coastal Georgia Seed Grant Activities

#### Posts

- UGA Water Resources participate in 2021 Athens Water Festival October 4, 2021
- Keep it Clean! SepticSmart Week 2021 September 26, 2021

# Extension Outreach

• Septic Smart Week



# Conclusion

- Education starts young
  - For K-12 kids have fun activities with more education mixed in as the age allows
  - For College students relate onsite to what they are learning in school
  - For Professionals provide:
    - Needed training
    - Information on things they need to know outside of On-Site Wastewater (811)
    - Information on new products and everyday products





# Thanks and Questions!

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