COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Stormwater Management	Presenter(s):	Vanessa Birrell
Meeting Date:	Thursday, August 23, 2012	Type of Request:	Consent

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of staff's request to insert an annual septic system maintenance flyer into Stormwater Management's annual utility bills.

Background/History/Details:

As part of both the National Pollutant and Discharge Elimination System's (NPDES) permit requirements, and the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's (MNGWPD) educational requirements; the Fayette County Stormwater Management Department must mail a septic system maintenance flyer to Fayette County residents.

Staff is asking for the Board's approval to insert the annual septic system maintenance flyer into Stormwater Management's annual Utility bills.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of staff's request to insert an annual septic system maintenance flyer into Stormwater Management's annual utility bills.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Funds for this request have been budgeted in Stormwater Management's Public Relations Services (50840320-521217) account

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	No	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

DO YOU KNOW YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM IS “GREEN?”

Septic Systems Safely Recycle Wastewater – Wastewater flows from your house into the tank where heavy solids or *sludge* settles to the bottom. *Scum* made up of hair, grease, and soap float to the top of the tank and wastewater in the middle is pushed out into the *drainfield*. *Baffles* attached to the outlet of the tank keep scum from entering the *drainfield*.

A leachfield is a perforated-pipe network buried 1-3 ft. deep in gravel channels. – Dissolved waste and bacteria is then decomposed by microorganisms and nutrients and absorbed into the soil.

Treated wastewater or *effluent* leaves the leachfield and percolates down through the soil. As effluent continues to seep down through the soil, waste not removed in the *drainfield* are further removed by natural process in the soil before meeting up with groundwater.

SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CHECK YOU CAN MAKE TO PROTECT YOUR HOME

Perform Regular Maintenance - Solids must eventually be pumped from the tank. Experts advise pumping a 1,000 gallon septic-tank used daily for a family of four every 3-5 years.

Do Not Pour Grease Down the Drain - Grease can clog the septic *drainfield*, making it impossible for soil to absorb liquids. If that happens you'll need a new *drainfield*.

Avoid Hazardous Chemicals - Varnish, paint thinners, motor oils, gasoline and other similar chemicals can ruin your system and are a hazard to groundwater. Dispose of them properly.

Protect the System from Damage - Do not drive over or build a structure on top of the *drainfield*, or cover it with concrete or asphalt. Do plant grass on top to minimize erosion.