



SHOAL CREEK TRUNK SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT SECTION I

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the purpose of the Shoal Creek Trunk Sewer Improvement Project Section I?

A. The purpose of the Shoal Creek Trunk Sewer Improvement Project Section I is to reduce future sanitary sewer overflows, meet current and future sewer demands and protect the environment.

Q. What are the benefits of the Shoal Creek Trunk Sewer Improvement Project Section I?

A. This sewer rehabilitation project will improve the county's watershed system, provide much-needed capacity to accommodate future growth and enhance the environmental resilience of the county's infrastructure.

Q. What is a trunk sewer?

A. A trunk sewer is a sewer line that receives wastewater flow from many branches of collector sewers (serves larger connection populations) and conveys the wastewater to a treatment plant or intercepting sewer. These trunk sewers are located parallel to existing creeks and waterways within the 100-year floodplain which precludes permanent structure construction among other things.

Q. When will the project begin and end?

A. Construction is expected to begin in May 2026 and last approximately 3 years.

Q. What will be the work hours during construction?

A. Normal construction hours will be from 7a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays. In some cases, extended weekday hours, weekend work, or night work may be necessary.

Q. Will the project affect school hours or schedules?

A. No changes to school hours are expected. The project team will avoid major disruptions during arrival, dismissal, and key school activities

Q. What are the phases and activities of the project?

A. The project will be completed in the following phases:

- 1) Phase 1 Preconstruction
- 2) Phase 2 Construction
- 3) Phase 3 Restoration

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B. The sewer activities involved will be:

- 1) Mobilization
- 2) Surveying the boundaries
- 3) Preconstruction video and photo documentation
- 4) Clearing the route
- 5) Erosion control installation
- 6) Drilling and micro-blasting (with seismic monitoring)
- 7) Installation of temporary bypass pumps to ensure that wastewater flow is rerouted around sewer mains being replaced
- 8) Layout of materials
- 9) Construction and excavation
- 10) Restoration of the overall sewer construction site

Q. What impacts, if any, will construction have on traffic in the surrounding community?

A. Traffic flaggers and project signage will be in place to guide motorists safely through the construction area for the duration of the project as needed.

Q. Will there be any lane closures or detours for school traffic? Will any sidewalks or walking paths be disrupted?

A. There will be no lane closures or detours, and the sidewalk will be open. Note, there is a construction entrance between the school and Flakes Mill Road bridge that will be used for access throughout the project, so crews will be conducting work near the school in waves.

Q. How will community and student safety be protected?

A. Safety is a top priority. There will be barriers, fencing, and traffic control personnel in place. Construction zones will be clearly marked, and crews will avoid high-traffic student times whenever possible.

Q. Will there be any impact on water or restroom use?

A. No interruptions to water or restroom services are expected.

Q. Will this project affect air quality or create odors?

A. There may be occasional construction-related odors, but they are temporary and monitored to ensure safety.

Q. Will the construction require heavy lighting that may be disruptive?

A. The majority of the construction activities will be conducted during normal business hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If night work is needed, crews will use portable lights positioned to face away from any neighboring residences to eliminate any nuisances.

Q. Will street parking be restricted during construction?

A. If necessary, yes. Construction access for this project will be generally along the corridor parallel to the South River (location of trunk sewers).

Q. Will this construction project cause noise in my community?

A. For short periods of time construction noise may be caused by:

- Heavy equipment and construction truck traffic
- Material manipulation and storage
- Compacting
- Pavement Saw
- Jackhammering
- Drilling
- Excavation and backhoe
- Grading
- Paving
- Rock excavation

Crews will work diligently to eliminate construction-related noises before or after the scheduled construction hours and DeKalb County will have on-site representatives during all construction activities by the contractor.

Q. How will tree removal be handled?

A. Tree removal will follow the tree ordinance under each jurisdiction. The trees on private property within the limit of disturbance will be removed to facilitate the construction. The trees outside limit of disturbance but impact at least 25% of critical root zone will also be removed. The certified arborist will verify and confirm some trees to be removed as necessary. Trees on permanent sewer easement will be removed and will not be put back on the permanent sewer easement. The tree replacement on private property will be negotiated with the property owner prior to the beginning of construction.

Q. Who can I contact if I have additional questions or need more information about the Shoal Creek Trunk Sewer Improvement Project?

For general project updates or information, contact the DWM Project Information Hotline at 1-800-986- 1108 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or email: projectinfo@dekalbcountyga.gov.

