

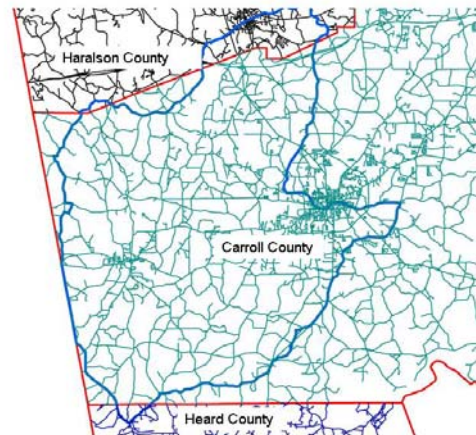
Lower Little Tallapoosa Watershed

About the Lower Little Tallapoosa Watershed:

The Lower Little Tallapoosa Watershed encompasses 131,271 acres in Carroll, Heard, and Haralson Counties. There are an estimated 217 miles of streams and 813 acres of lakes in this watershed.

The Environmental Protection Division's 2006 305(b)/303(d) List of Rivers/Streams Not Fully Supporting Designated Uses identifies over 27 miles of stream segments within the Lower Little Tallapoosa Basin. These segments list fecal coliform as the primary criteria violated due to non-point source causes including agricultural uses, failing septic systems, and other issues. In 2006, a Tier 2 TMDL Implementation Plan was completed for the Tallapoosa River Basin and Buffalo Creek Watershed to address the primary water quality impairment of fecal coliform. This project proposes to implement the TMDL implementation plan and implement practices to correct the water quality impairments.

Lower Little Tallapoosa Watershed Map



Project Goals:

1. Implement structural best management practices (BMPs) within the watershed to address sources of (1) fecal coliform impairments and (2) sediment impairments.
2. Long range: Possible delisting these stream segments from the 305(b)/303(d) lists by lowering fecal coliform loads and improving water quality in the stream segments.

Project Details:

The project will provide \$821,580 towards the implementation of water quality measures to address the impairments between January 2009 and December 2011. These funds will be offered in a cost share program to private landowners.

- Septic Best Management Practices (BMPs)—BMPs may include pumpouts, retrofits, septic system repairs, correcting failing and straight pipe grey water systems, and replacing straight pipe sewage with new septic systems.
- Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs)—BMPs may include poultry litter stackhouses, nutrient management systems, poultry mortality systems (shed and rotary composters), livestock exclusion (from riparian areas), heavy use areas, critical area plantings, buffer establishment, etc.
- Other BMPs—BMPs may include decommissioning wells and addressing stormwater/sediment issues from stream channels.
- The University of West Georgia will provide water quality monitoring throughout project through an ongoing contract with Carroll County.
- Partners for this project include USDA-NRCS, FSA, Carroll County, Environmental Health (Carroll, Haralson, and Heard), University of West Georgia, Cooperative Extension, and the Chattahoochee Flint RDC.