

What Was New for 2014 in Richmond County, GA - Fred Koehle

- A. Ultimate goal - make the job easier
 - 1. Complaints were increasing
 - a) Voice mail was difficult to deal with
 - (1) Often hard to hear
 - (2) People don't give complete info
 - (3) Need to listen and transcribe
 - b) Solution - 311 system
 - (1) Take all complaints
 - (2) Send email with all info
 - (3) Can pull call up on a GIS to get exact location
 - (4) Split info up to send to correct agencies
 - (5) Cost saver
 - (6) Time saver
 - 2. Trapping and ID
 - a) No one on staff available to ID
 - b) Were doing trapping and counts but no ID
 - c) Solution - collaborate with Phinizy Swamp program
 - (1) Using students
 - (2) Consistent data
 - (3) Timely
 - 3. Retention ponds
 - a) 825 ponds
 - (1) Overgrown
 - (2) Not maintained
 - (3) Causing mosquito problems
 - b) Solution - goats
 - (1) Free labor
 - (a) Eat most of the grasses
 - (b) Eat quickly - a couple of weeks to mow down the vegetation
 - (2) Use all females
 - (a) 4-5 per pond
 - (b) 6-8 ponds at a time
 - (3) They do need care
 - (a) Water
 - (b) Shelter
 - (c) Treats
 - (d) Do need to keep the fences fixed
 - (e) Cover storm drains
 - (4) Collaborating with other agencies to care for the goats
 - (a) Engineering - fence maintenance
 - (b) Animal Control - goat care
 - (c) Sign Department
 - (5) Well accepted by neighborhoods
 - (6) Looking to get a bit more structure to the program at this point
- B. Bottom line
 - 1. Work is getting done
 - 2. Costs are not going up
 - 3. Program can be expanded in other ways