

The Air Protection Branch works with citizens, industry and environmental groups to find solutions to CLEANER AIR IN GEORGIA

“Clean air is everybody’s business!”

Clean air is a precious natural resource – one we can not live without.

Humans can live a few weeks without food, a few days without water, but only a few minutes without air.



Atlanta Regional Commission

Clean air is essential not only to public health but also to the natural environment and the economy.

Today, we face new challenges in our quest for clean air. Our task is becoming more complex as explosive growth brings more people, vehicles and industry to Georgia. But our job is clear: protect and enhance air quality in Georgia through effective monitoring, short and long range planning, regulation, permitting, enforcement and education.

By working together, through regulations and voluntary measures, we can improve Georgia’s air quality, and make it healthier for everyone. Citizens, environmental groups, business, industry and government all have a role to play.

Need more information?

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Air Protection Branch
Atlanta Tradeport, Suite 120
4244 International Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30354
404-363-7000

Air Quality Index Hotline:
404-362-4909 or 1-800-427-9605

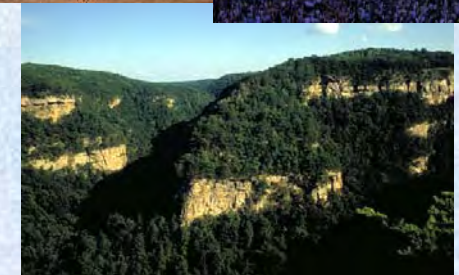
www.georgiaair.org



Call EPD at 1-888-373-5947 (toll-free in Georgia) or
404-657-5947 (in the Atlanta area)
gaepd.org

Photos provided by Georgia Department of Economic Development unless otherwise noted.

Air Protection in Georgia



Georgia
Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Air Protection Branch

Air Protection Programs

The Air Protection Branch of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is responsible for protecting Georgia's air quality through the regulation of emissions from industrial and mobile sources. The Branch is divided into six programs, all staffed with dedicated individuals working to ensure Georgia's clean air.

AMBIENT MONITORING

The Ambient Monitoring Program (AMP) maintains a large statewide network of monitors measuring the ambient (outdoor) air for approximately 170 pollutants including ozone, lead, particulate matter, oxides of nitrogen, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, hazardous air pollutants and compounds that aid in smog formation. The program also uses meteorological data to better understand the influence of meteorology on air quality, and then reports the air quality index (AQI) for metro Atlanta, Savannah, Columbus, Augusta, the north Georgia mountains, Macon, Brunswick and central Georgia areas. AMP also issues year round smog alert forecasts for a twenty county area in and around metro Atlanta, and forecasts ozone for the city of Macon.

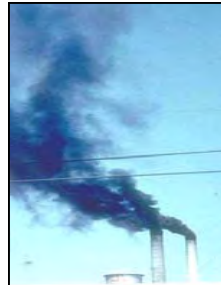


STATIONARY SOURCE PERMITTING

The Stationary Source Permitting Program handles the issuance, renewal and modification of stationary sources' air quality permits in Georgia. This program also reviews applications and issues operating permits for existing major and minor stationary sources of air pollution.

STATIONARY SOURCE COMPLIANCE

The Stationary Source Compliance Program is responsible for evaluating stationary sources of air pollution throughout Georgia for compliance with Air Quality Permit conditions. This is accomplished through onsite inspections, reviews of periodic monitoring reports, stack test results, and annual compliance certifications. The program is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate enforcement action to remedy conditions of noncompliance, investigating air pollution complaints, assisting EPD's District Offices with air quality matters, and reviewing draft air quality permits for enforceability.



Georgia EPD

INDUSTRIAL SOURCE MONITORING

The Industrial Source Monitoring Program specifies and approves all stationary source emissions monitoring and testing procedures. The program works closely with the Stationary Source Permitting and Compliance Programs to ensure consistent and reliable testing methods. It also is responsible for developing and maintaining stationary source emission inventories as well as developing tools and managing data for Title V applications.



PLANNING AND SUPPORT

The Planning and Support Program performs computer modeling and analyses to determine how to attain air quality standards. The program works to develop the rules, regulations and programs that help the state achieve and maintain those standards. Planning and Support is also responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting emissions inventories for the branch.



Georgia EPD

MOBILE AND AREA SOURCES

The Mobile and Area Sources Program evaluates and controls emissions from mobile (on-road and off-road) sources and area (small industrial) sources. The program works to implement enhanced vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance programs through Georgia's Clean Air Force. Mobile and Area Sources also address metro Atlanta's ozone nonattainment issues, including developing and implementing control strategies, such as low sulfur Georgia Gas, Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel, the Adopt-A-Schoolbus Program and alternative fuel vehicles.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UNIT

The Public Affairs Unit coordinates public participation activities for the branch including public meetings, open houses and hearings. General outreach activities include news media relations, speaking engagements, event planning and development of informational materials.

