

City of Helen Groundwater Development Program White County, Georgia

Services Provided:

Geophysical Coordination
Land Acquisition Assistance
Test Well Drilling
EPD permitting
Funding Procurement
Well Facility Design
Bid Phase Management
Construction Observation
and Management
System Operations

Project Data:

New Well Development
Existing Well Evaluation
and Rehabilitation
Telemetry Upgrade
System Rehabilitation

Total Project Cost:
\$1.2 Million

Contact:

City of Helen
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Engineering Management, Inc. has assisted the City of Helen for the past two decades in developing new groundwater resources as well as evaluating and rehabilitating existing wells. As the City's water demand has increased over 30% during the last 10 years, the City has developed and re-developed groundwater resources and has reduced the dependency on purchasing water from an adjacent system.

The City's groundwater resources have been doubled due to these efforts and the City's six wells have a combined capacity of over 400 GPM. The City's current EPD withdrawal permit allows up to 0.4 MGD in meeting daily demands.

Development of the City's ground water sources have not been without challenges. High Iron and Manganese, low pH and other challenges have compelled the City to look at innovate ways to effectively and economically treat the various issues in the respective sources and produce a high quality of water for its residences and businesses. While many of the issues in the ground water sources do not exceed the EPA established Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), the City of Helen has always strived to excel in providing a high quality of water in its distribution system.

The City's treatment facilities in the various wells include chlorination, Fluoridation, filtration and Ion Exchange, depending upon the respective well's raw water quality. In addition to assisting the City in developing the wells, EMI has assisted in project funding procurement, design and permitting, construction management and project startup.

Following successful startup, EMI has provided operational services for all of the City's groundwater wells, including ongoing operations, EPD reporting and general management support.