

its Confluence with the Withlacoochee. But there were no warning signs at the Baytree Road Bridge over Sugar Creek nor at Bland Park between there and Gornto, and there were never any warning signs downstream from Sugar Creek on the Withlacoochee River. Why did DPH or Lowndes Health not set out any warning signs?

**According to Georgia EPD this is a City of Valdosta responsibility**

12. Why did DPH or Lowndes Health not require Valdosta to put out any warning signs?

**Georgia DPH or Lowndes H.D. does not have jurisdiction in this matter, therefore we do not have the authority to require Valdosta to put out warning signs**

13. Generally, how can DPH or Lowndes Health ensure the Georgia and Florida public and relevant agencies and other organizations are adequately informed and warned about public health issues in our waterways?

**Monitoring of wastewater treatment facilities like the one in Valdosta fall under the jurisdiction of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, as does state waters. When you contacted me on December 23, I contacted Georgia EPD office in Albany, GA. I was referred to Marzieh Shavazaz 404-463-4933 Georgia EPD Atlanta. I left a message and an EPD representative (Ashlyn) returned my call. I told her that I had received a call of concern from the Suwannee Riverkeepers about the sewage spill that occurred on December 3 in the City of Valdosta. She said they were aware of the spill and working with the City of Valdosta. I asked about signage and she told me it was the city's responsibility for signage and that the City of Valdosta had been cooperating. I contacted Chris Calhoun, District Environmental Health Director, and Courtney Sheeley, District Communications Director, to see if anyone had contacted us for assistance. They were not aware of any requests. As I mentioned on the telephone that day, state waterways in Georgia fall under the jurisdiction of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division not Georgia Department of Public Health. I am not familiar with Florida's system or requirements. We have good relationship with the City of Valdosta and the EPD representative said they were cooperating.**

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