

## TIFTON-TIFT COUNTY

The primary initiative that Tifton-Tift County has chosen to implement is the development of a Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) as a tool to guide the use and development of the community's resources. The CEMP will be a holistic approach to managing issues such as land use, water and wastewater, storm water collection, other environmental resources, solid waste collection and disposal, and the development of ordinances to address signage and landscaping across the county. The strategy for creating this CEMP includes the establishment of an Environmental Management advisory Group to work with the local governments in prioritizing the issues contained in their comprehensive plan that pertain to the issues under consideration in the CEMP. Realization of their primary initiative, development of the CEMP, will potentially involve DCA's Planning and Environmental Management Division as well as other state agency partners.

Following the creation of the CEMP, Tifton and Tift County would like to pursue additional objectives, building on the findings of the CEMP, including: provision of additional housing options; enhancement of the water-wastewater service; county-wide inventory of septic systems, recorded in a GIS-based database; resurfacing or extension of county roads; establishment of additional greenspace; and, potential functional consolidation of some government services. All of these issues and opportunities will be included in the update to their comprehensive plan due 2008. The Environmental Management Advisory Group will be heavily involved in the creation of the CEMP as well as the updating of the comprehensive plan.