To address the global issue of water quality degradation from cities, this project has built upon relationships between Spelman College, GSU, NGOs, and community-based watershed advocacy organizations to better identify and address sewage spills in Atlanta. We developed a community-based water quality monitoring network in watersheds totaling 300 square-miles of highly urbanized and densely populated headwaters of two rivers in metro Atlanta, providing greater regulatory effectiveness, better relations between impacted communities and watersheds, and new opportunities to improve both watershed and public health. The Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, American Rivers, and the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance have assisted with creating a system whereby students at Spelman and GSU processed water quality samples routinely collected by community members of the South River Watershed Alliance, Flint Riverkeeper, and ECO-Action.