

# Laws Into Action

How Georgia agencies administer programs and enforce laws

**SS8CG3.b** "Describe how the executive branch fulfills its role through state agencies that administer programs and enforce laws."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline each state agency, circle one program or service it administers, and write E beside each action that enforces a law or rule.

### Georgia Agencies at Work

- ① The governor heads Georgia's executive branch, but one person cannot carry out every state duty. State agencies give the branch specialists who put laws into action each day. For example, the Georgia Department of Public Health administers programs that protect community health. Its environmental health staff work with local health departments to inspect restaurants and investigate reports of unsafe food. When an inspection finds serious health violations, officials can require corrections or take steps to protect the public. These actions help turn state health rules into daily practice.
- ② Another agency, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, carries out laws involving land, water, wildlife, and outdoor recreation. The department administers programs by managing state parks and issuing hunting and fishing licenses. Its law-enforcement division employs conservation rangers. Rangers check whether hunters and anglers follow license, season, and safety requirements. They may investigate violations and issue citations when people break wildlife or boating laws. By combining services for the public with enforcement, the agency helps conserve resources that belong to all Georgians.
- ③ Georgia's Environmental Protection Division, part of the Department of Natural Resources, focuses on air, land, and water quality. It administers environmental programs by issuing permits that set limits for activities such as releasing pollution into waterways. The division also checks whether permit holders obey those limits. If a business violates environmental laws or permit conditions, the agency can require changes and take enforcement action. Agencies report to executive-branch leaders and follow laws passed by the General Assembly. Their permits, inspections, services, and investigations show how the executive branch both administers programs and enforces laws.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** How do state agencies help Georgia's executive branch carry out state laws?

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**2** What are two actions public health officials take to protect people from unsafe restaurant food?

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**3** Name one program activity and one enforcement activity of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

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**4** How does the Environmental Protection Division both administer a program and enforce laws?

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Choose one agency named in the passage. In 3 or 4 sentences, create a realistic new situation in which the agency administers a program or service and enforces a related law or rule. Explain how both actions serve Georgians.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline each state agency, circle one program or service it administers, and write E beside each action that enforces a law or rule. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                               | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | How do state agencies help Georgia's executive branch carry out state laws?                            | <b>They provide specialists who put laws into daily action by administering programs and enforcing laws or rules.</b>                                                                                                    |
| 2 | What are two actions public health officials take to protect people from unsafe restaurant food?       | <b>They inspect restaurants and investigate reports of unsafe food. They can also require corrections when serious health violations are found.</b>                                                                      |
| 3 | Name one program activity and one enforcement activity of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. | <b>It manages state parks or issues hunting and fishing licenses. Conservation rangers investigate violations and may issue citations for breaking wildlife or boating laws.</b>                                         |
| 4 | How does the Environmental Protection Division both administer a program and enforce laws?             | <b>It issues permits that set pollution limits, which administers an environmental program. It checks permit holders and can require changes or take enforcement action when laws or permit conditions are violated.</b> |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources could administer a campsite reservation service in a state park. Agency staff could enforce rules against damaging park property. Reservations help families use public recreation areas, while enforcement keeps the park safe and usable for future visitors.

Accept accurate responses that name an agency from the passage, describe both an administered program or service and an enforcement action, and explain how the actions serve the public. Wording may vary if the agency role remains realistic and clearly connected to the executive branch.