

Sink Hole Risk

All of Lowndes County is at risk for sinkholes. The county sits on a karst aquifer made up of limestone. Water moving through the ground can dissolve limestone over time which can create an underground cavern or cavity that could cause the terrain above to collapse.

- ❖ The size of a hyperscale data center can be 100,000 to 1,000,000 square feet for a large campus
- ❖ The size of a shopping mall can be up to 800,000 square feet.
- ❖ The size of an average Walmart is 180,000 square feet.
- ❖ DC Blox builds centers on average at 31,000 to 70,000 square feet for some locations and up to 750,000 square feet on large campuses with multiple buildings.
- ❖ Lowndes County's data center ordinance will require appropriate studies related to environmental components addressed by federal and state laws, along with expected engineering practices.

Lowndes County does not intend to allow data centers to use cooling systems that would require water usage outside of a closed loop system. The risk of a sinkhole should not be greater for a data center than any other large development.