



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Relay Down the Hooch to travel through Lake Lanier, come ashore at Food Truck festival

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's 435-mile Relay Down the Hooch will come ashore at Lake Lanier Olympic Venue on Friday, April 12, 2019 alongside the weekly food truck festival, "Food Truck Fridays on the Lake."

Relay Down the Hooch is a year-long, Olympic-style relay from the river's source in the North Georgia mountains down to the Florida border. The event celebrates 25 years of Chattahoochee Riverkeeper keeping watch over the Chattahoochee River—the lifeblood of our region.

This fifth leg of the Relay will set sail from Lula Park Bridge and travel through Lake Lanier, a crucial part of the Chattahoochee River.

"This section is where the tumbling rapids and the wild, untamed river changes form," says Headwaters Outreach Coordinator Hannah Warner. "This is where the Chattahoochee River becomes known as Lake Sidney Lanier and without it, Hall County and Atlanta would look a lot different."

Lake Lanier supplies drinking water for more than five million people. It also boasts \$5 billion in economic impact to the region with 10 million visitors annually.

The river itself touches three states (Georgia, Alabama, Florida) and countless communities. The Chattahoochee also provides crucial wildlife habitat and is a valuable resource for recreationalists and nature-lovers.

Relay Down the Hooch will engage more than 25 partner organizations, outfitters, advocates and volunteers through 30 sections. This particular segment will be led by the Lake Lanier Rowing Club and the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club. Participants will traverse Lake Lanier using motor boats, canoes, kayaks and even dragon boats.

Boaters will approach the Olympic Venue at approximately 6:30 p.m., at which point guests are invited to welcome and celebrate the Relay as it completes this section.

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's mission is to protect and preserve the Chattahoochee River, its lakes and tributaries for the people, fish and wildlife that depend upon it.

All are welcome to follow along as participants pass our custom commemorative paddle from community to community. The months-long journey will end in November. For more information, visit chattahoochee.org/relay.

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