It marks 25 years since the organization got its start through forcing the City of Atlanta to upgrade the city’s failing storm and sewer collection and treatment system. Since 1994, the organization has grown significantly—taking on more cases to protect the river and expanding the tools available for fulfilling our mission through watershed-wide trash cleanups, on-the-water educational programs, weekly water quality testing and so much more.

As we have grown, so too have the communities that depend on the river. The Chattahoochee begins by quietly bubbling up out of its source spring above Helen and progresses to become a powerful waterway, sustaining countless industries, wildlife and recreational pursuits, all while providing drinking water to more than five million people. What better way to celebrate our shared evolution than by charting the river’s entire course—all 435 miles of it?

CRK’s Relay Down the Hooch is a 435-mile, Olympic-torch-style river relay from the Chattahoochee’s source in the north Georgia mountains down to the Florida border. By engaging more than 25 partner organizations, outfitters, advocates and other stakeholders throughout the journey, the year-long event is drawing well-deserved and much-needed attention to the many ways that people experience the river.

“We are thrilled to invite our partners to join in a year-long river patrol,” said Riverkeeper Jason Ulseth, who will be leading patrols on many rarely explored sections of the river in south Georgia. “We have made tremendous progress in water quality improvements and this is an opportunity to celebrate the river’s revival.”

To touch each and every mile of the river is no easy feat. Hannah Warner, CRK Headwaters Outreach Director, led several sections from the source down to Lake Lanier. “The Headwaters section is where the tumbling rapids and the wild, untamed river changes form,” she said. “This is where the Chattahoochee River becomes known as Lake Sidney Lanier; without the lake, Hall County and Atlanta would look a lot different.”

As the river flows south into the more densely populated northern Atlanta suburbs, it is faced with a number of stressors, many of which CRK Outings Manager Tammy Bates sees firsthand. “Despite all the people who enjoy the park, we still see trash and polluted stormwater runoff in this segment on a regular basis,” said Tammy. “We hope that the Relay will help raise awareness of the issues this area faces.”

A custom paddle carved from sassafras wood serves as the Relay’s baton, and is being passed among an amazing cast of CRK partners as together we make our way down the entire river. All are welcome to follow along as participants “pass the paddle” from community to community until the Relay concludes in October 2019.

“We are thrilled to invite our partners to join in a year-long river patrol. We have made tremendous progress in water quality improvements and this is an opportunity to celebrate the river’s revival.”

- Jason Ulseth, Riverkeeper, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

#followthepaddle at chattahoochee.org/relay
I’ve been boating and fishing downstream of Buford Dam most of my life and I have never seen the river flows this high for so long.

Last year, 2018, was Atlanta’s second wettest on record. More than 20 inches of rain above normal fell and as a result Lake Lanier was above its full pool elevation for a good part of 2018 and well into 2019. During this time, the Army Corps of Engineers sent thousands of cubic feet of water per second into the river from Buford Dam to draw down the lake to keep storage available for more rainfall.

The flows were so high that downstream parks were inundated with river water and the river’s banks suffered unprecedented erosion. On top of these impacts, there is the issue of safety. When the Corps is releasing at that rate, boating and fishing is very risky, and concession outfitters are prohibited from putting people on the water.

As June approached this year, we finally got some dry weather, which allowed the Corps to drop lake elevation levels closer to the established max of 1071’. The timing was excellent. The water stayed in Lake Lanier as school let out and the summer recreation season began. Outfitters were back in business putting people on the water, and visitors could safely enjoy the popular Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. How long these conditions will last remains to be seen.

This is the nature of dealing with a tail-water river. Many factors play into how the Corps controls the levels at Buford Dam, but none play a bigger role than recent rainfall and resultant lake levels.

As weather patterns continue to change and become more intense between wet years and drought years, we must find ways to adapt and regulate lake levels and river flows so it’s not an “all or nothing” scenario. One potential adaptation will involve exploring the feasibility of raising Lake Lanier’s full pool elevation beyond 1071’ to capture rain during wet periods that can later be released during drier times. Chattahoochee Riverkeeper will continue to work with stakeholders across the basin to find sustainable solutions for river management.

“...it is in my backyard and together with young people from around our region, we can make a difference in its future!”

Hannah Testa found her passion for the planet in kindergarten when she spoke to her classmates and family about threats to wildlife like bears and orcas. Today, she is a high school student in Cumming, Georgia, and an international spokesperson advocating against threats to our planet, especially plastic pollution. Hannah’s crusade will return to her home state where she is co-chairing CRK’s Water Warriors Summit on October 13 and 14 with John R Seydel, City of Atlanta Director of Sustainability and Turner Foundation Director. “I am so excited to take part in the Water Warriors Summit because the Chattahoochee River is in my backyard and together with young people from around our region, we can make a difference in its future.”
**ON PATROL WITH CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERKEEPER**

**BUFFER DISTURBANCE ON THE RIVER IN TROUT HABITAT**

While on patrol near Sautee Nacoochee, CRK discovered the removal of trees and other vegetation within the river buffer, which is a violation of the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act and Habersham County’s local stream buffer ordinance. CRK reported the violation to the Habersham County Planning and Development Department, which issued a notice to the property owner to comply with state and local stream buffer protections. This order requires the landowner to restore the buffer along the river back to its natural state by planting native vegetation during the next growing season.

**ENFORCEMENT ACTION AT UNPERMITTED METAL WORKS ON BURNT FORK CREEK**

CRK has filed a lawsuit to address violations of the Clean Water Act at an unpermitted iron works facility along Burnt Fork Creek in Tucker. The site is host to operations that “galvanize” metal (typically achieved by applying a zinc coating) as well as a grading and recycling company that stores metal, aggregate, gravel and concrete adjacent to the stream. CRK is taking action to ensure that the owner and operator come into compliance with Georgia’s industrial stormwater permit and prevent pollutant-laden stormwater from running into the creek.

**SEWAGE SPILL INTO PARK CREEK ON LAGRANGE COLLEGE CAMPUS**

CRK found discolored water in a tributary flowing through the LaGrange College campus. Testing of the creek showed that E.coli levels were 200 times the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s safe water standard. City of LaGrange utilities were immediately notified. Through their investigation, a crew discovered cracks in an old, underground, clay sewer line. The city called in a contractor to replace the lines and CRK has confirmed that bacteria levels have returned to normal levels.

**DEKALB COUNTY EXPERIENCES RASH OF SEWAGE SPILLS**

Despite DeKalb County’s progress on several major projects to stem sanitary sewage overflows, the system recently experienced a rash of major spills. Following heavy rains, from Christmas Eve 2018 through early January and again in April, millions of gallons spilled into streams throughout the county. During two particularly rainy days in April, more than 413,000 gallons of raw sewage and stormwater escaped the sewer system. Spills can be caused by clogs from fats, oils, greases and baby wipes, but other contributing factors are a lack of capacity and infiltration of stormwater into cracked sewer lines. If you see a spill, contact us via our Hotline at chattahoochee.org/report-a-problem/.

**PROPOSAL TO DISCHARGE HEAVY METALS AT GEORGIA POWER FACILITIES**

A review of Georgia Environmental Protection Division files revealed that Georgia Power is requesting a special variance to discharge heavy metals in its stormwater at levels more than 100 times greater than those allowed in state permits. Since 2015, GP has been uncovering, transporting and disposing of dried coal ash waste at Plant McDonough and Plant Yates, both along the banks of the Chattahoochee River. This activity is contributing to higher concentrations of metals in Georgia Power’s stormwater runoff. As a result of our investigation, EPD has requested additional information from Georgia Power and delayed implementation of these new limits for heavy metals while the division vets the possible impacts to our river.

For more information, visit: chattahoochee.org/our-work/enforcement

WWW.CHATTAHOOCHEE.ORG
In just nine years, volunteer participation in Sweep the Hooch has grown more than 200%. The amount of trash we collect on the annual cleanup day has increased, too. In total, Sweep the Hooch has yielded 113 tons of trash being removed from the watershed. Simon Locke, an eight-year veteran of Sweep, describes Sweep as “my super bowl. The more we can get out the better.”

Volunteers serve in three capacities at the cleanup: paddlers picking trash out of the river, waders cleaning the river banks and walkers combing the grounds adjacent to our river and creeks. “There are so many people and so much wildlife that depends on this incredible natural resource,” said Tammy Bates, CRK’s Outings Manager. “It’s our duty to take care of the Chattahoochee, and Sweep the Hooch invites everyone to do so.”

Recognizing the growing interest in our cleanup program, this year CRK is organizing one cleanup a month and all are invited to participate. Our cleanup schedule is posted on our web site. chattahoochee.org/cleanups/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harry Falise</td>
<td>Pat Fagan</td>
<td>Emily Caldwell</td>
<td>Jason Caldwell</td>
<td>Charlie Caldwell</td>
<td>Jillian Canada</td>
<td>Sandric Cantillon</td>
<td>Jennifer Carille</td>
<td>John Carlson</td>
<td>Brendon Carrasquillo</td>
<td>Sylvester Catlette</td>
<td>Gabrieela Cabezas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list includes names of individuals and organizations associated with Dunwoody Woman's Club, Dunwoody Woman's Club organizations, and Dunwoody Woman's Club events. It also includes names of individuals associated with Riverkeeper and Chattahoochee Riverkeeper organizations. The list is likely to be a part of a membership roster or a list of attendees for an event. The list format is consistent, with names arranged in a tabular format, and it is clear that the context is related to community or organizational membership.
Please become a member today by visiting chattahoochee.org/become-a-member-or-renew.

With your help, we stand strong to ensure our drinking water is clean and safe.
CRITTER CORNER:  SNAPPING TURTLES

“Did you just see that rock move? Wait, it’s not a rock, it is a turtle!”

If you see a large rock-looking turtle on the bottom of the river or a stream, there’s a good chance that it’s a snapping turtle. Characterized by their massive size and jagged shell, they are easily mistaken for giant river stones. Although typically docile in water, snapping turtles will strike if provoked. The powerful jaw of the reptilian snapper can slam shut with a force of more than 1,000 pounds. For your own safety, keep your distance if you see one in a creek or along the riverbank and avoid getting too close just to take a peek—they’re more likely to strike when cornered.

Both species of snappers eat vegetation and animals, including adult and larval insects, crayfish, amphibians, snakes, smaller turtles, birds and small mammals. Alligator snapping turtles, as their name suggests, will even eat small alligators! Snappers generally have few predators, other than humans who have been known to trap them out of fear or for food.

Despite the fierceness of these turtles, snappers represent a unique part of the Chattahoochee’s ecosystem, and are worthy of respect and awe (from afar!).

Since starting Neighborhood Water Watch (NWW) in 2010, CRK has detected more than 90 sewer spills, effectively stopping millions of gallons of raw sewage from reaching the Chattahoochee River. While NWW has achieved an unparalleled record of success, some spills go undetected as many streams are difficult for volunteers to access and samples may not be collected at the same time that a spill is ongoing. With this problem in mind, CRK has been working to develop an economical solution since 2015.

By combining technology and learned lessons from three related initiatives, the Chattahoochee Aquatic Sensor System Integrated (CASSI) was born. In 2014, CRK worked with Ericsson’s Technology for Good program; later we utilized technology from the Stroud Water Research Center in Pennsylvania and participated in a remote monitoring project hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The CASSI is an in-stream water sensor that can gather data including temperature, turbidity, conductivity, pH and dissolved oxygen, all of which are indicators of waterway health. That data is sent over a cellular network to a web data portal every 15 minutes, where CRK staff monitors the results and looks for irregularities in the data.

“The more CASSI devices we can deploy to monitor our waterways, the more protective we can be,” says Jess Sterling, CRK’s Technical Programs Director. “These devices and the data CASSIs collect will be used to complement the weekly samples collected by NWW volunteers and will help track potential pollution issues faster and more effectively.”

In 2018, CRK launched two CASSI devices in Proctor Creek. In May 2019, we launched a third device in Tanyard Creek, and we have plans to deploy a fourth device this summer in the main stem of the Chattahoochee River at McGinnis Ferry. Financial support for CRK’s CASSI devices comes from generous donations from our members, The Orvis Company and Colonial Pipeline. Each CASSI costs approximately $500 to $2,000, depending on the water quality parameters being measured. “With millions of people dependent on the river for drinking water, billions in economic development at stake, and countless fish and wildlife calling the river home, this is a small investment in our health and security,” said Juliet Cohen, CRK’s Executive Director.
GREEN STREETS
AND CLEAN STREAMS

In spring 2019, several new in-ground planters were installed along a few of Atlanta’s bustling streets, but these are not any old planters meant to showcase your favorite blooms; rather these are thoughtfully designed “stormwater planters” that will reduce flooding and other impacts from urban runoff.

The four planters were installed on either end of Atlanta—two are located in West View and two in Inman Park. Each directs stormwater off the streets and into structures filled with rocks, engineered soils, trees and other native vegetation where it can slowly infiltrate back into the ground instead of sending polluted stormwater straight to creeks and the river.

We launched the ‘Green Streets and Clean Streams’ project in partnership with Trees Atlanta. Working with cooperation from the City of Atlanta and enthusiastic volunteers, we installed the planters in strategic locations in the city to enhance local tree canopy and beautifully curbsides while also reducing the impacts of stormwater runoff from paved surfaces. The initial installments were made possible through the support of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits, The Home Depot Foundation’s Building Community Network and a grant from the Bank of America.

Typically, cities manage runoff through “grey infrastructure,” a series of drains that carry untreated stormwater into underground pipes that empty to nearby streams or rivers. The Green Streets and Clean Streams project adopts “green infrastructure,” which manages rainwater where it falls and restores the natural flow of water through a landscape.

“Trees Atlanta was excited to work with CRK on [The Green Streets and Clean Streams] project. We always want to highlight the role trees play in the management and filtration of stormwater.”

- Kelly Ridenhour, Project Coordinator, Trees Atlanta

CRK also installed water level sensors in the planters to measure their effectiveness in collecting and draining stormwater. Early results indicate the project is a success. Now, the goal is to develop a replicable, cost-effective model for implementing street-side green infrastructure installations in communities throughout the Chattahoochee watershed.

MEGA SPILL ON NICKAJACK CREEK
DILUTED BY HIGH WINTER FLOWS

On New Year’s Eve, the Cobb County South Cobb Water Reclamation Facility experienced an unprecedented equipment failure. Over the subsequent nine days, an estimated 113 million gallons of raw sewage and stormwater spewed out of a manhole into Nickajack Creek just a couple of yards from the Chattahoochee River.

“Mega spills like this are one of the reasons CRK regularly tests water quality at 180 locations in the watershed each week.”

- Mike Meyer, Director, CRK Neighborhood Water Watch

CRK responded immediately by collecting and testing water samples and providing access to reporters to ensure public awareness of the event.

The deluge of untreated sewage entering the river via Nickajack Creek was evident as far as 70 miles downriver. E.coli bacteria levels measured more than five times higher than normal. Large releases of untreated sewage contain harmful human pathogens, can cause fish kills, interfere with fish reproduction and introduce nutrients that result in algal blooms and plummeting oxygen levels.

“Mega spills like this are one of the reasons CRK regularly tests water quality at 180 locations in the watershed each week.”

- Mike Meyer, CRK’s Neighborhood Water Watch Director

Fortunately, the spill occurred in the winter when temperatures were low and river flows were high from recent rains and releases from Buford Dam. These conditions alleviated some of the stress on the river by diluting the sewage and making conditions less hospitable to pathogen survival and algal growth. Testing conducted by our field teams immediately downstream of the spill indicated that dissolved oxygen levels remained sufficient to support aquatic life throughout the duration of the spill.

Within nine days of the equipment failure, Cobb County crews installed a bypass pumping system and the sewage spill was stopped. Our follow-up testing indicated that water quality returned to normal levels. The cause for the equipment failure remains under investigation, meanwhile CRK continues to conduct regular patrols to ensure our waters are protected.
For years the municipalities’ plans included building a new water supply reservoir on a Chattahoochee tributary known as Bear Creek. The South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority (Authority), made up of Fairburn, Palmetto and Union City, proposed a 440-acre reservoir that would be filled by pumping water—up to 32 million gallons daily—from the Chattahoochee River.

Different reservoir concept plans failed on multiple occasions, most recently in 2016. The primary reason was no need for the project. The state’s overly optimistic population projections—on which the Authority relied to justify the reservoir—did not pan out as officials initially expected. As a result, after spending millions of dollars on consultants and engineers to justify the project, the Authority dropped the idea for a new reservoir a few years ago.

Despite the revised, lower population projections, the Authority now seeks a permit to withdraw up to 11 million gallons per day directly from the Chattahoochee River. CRK does not support this permit request for many of the same reasons we did not support the County’s previous proposals for Bear Creek Reservoir.

First, the Authority does not have a fundamental water supply need. Two of the Authority’s cities—Fairburn and Union City—buy their water from the City of Atlanta, which is permitted to withdraw 180 million gallons of water per day from the Chattahoochee River. The City of Atlanta uses approximately 51 percent of that permitted capacity and has plenty for existing and future customers, including those in South Fulton County.

Second, population projections relied upon by decision-makers remain unrealistic. The Authority claims there will be 131,701 people living in their jurisdictions by 2065. However, this represents a 209 percent increase from the current estimated population of 41,608 people. This is an astronomical projection for three small cities when compared to Fulton County’s overall projected growth.

Fulton County’s 2018 population was 1,050,114 people. Fulton County’s projected population in 2050 will be 1,631,265 people. This amounts to only a 55 percent increase county-wide.

Third, the three cities have significant room for improvement when it comes to managing water loss. There will be even less need for a new water supply if the cities make improvements to ensure the water they bring in is beneficially used and returned to the river, rather than lost due to aging pipes or inefficient practices. It is more prudent for the cities to invest resources in addressing system management and operations to reduce real water loss instead of spending money on developing an entirely new water supply source, new water treatment facility, miles of new raw and finished water supply mains, and the associated pumping costs.

CRK will continue to monitor this permit request, and advocate for robust conservation efforts as the more cost-effective and sustainable means of meeting our future water supply needs.

Despite the revised, lower population projections, the Authority now seeks a permit to withdraw up to 11 million gallons per day directly from the Chattahoochee River. CRK does not support this permit request for many of the same reasons we did not support the County’s previous proposals for Bear Creek Reservoir.
Proctor Creek, which begins in downtown Atlanta and flows west to the Chattahoochee River, has long suffered from stormwater carrying litter and illegal dumping of trash and tires. Two Litter Gitters, which serve to collect the trash pollution, are now located near Maddox Park and Boyd Elementary School off of Johnson Road.

The Litter Gitter is designed and installed by Osprey Initiative, a company led by owner and founder Don Bates. During his 25-year career in environmental consulting, Bates found himself cleaning the same stream site repeatedly. So he built and tested the Litter Gitter with the hope that it could make a dent in the growing litter problem. The first prototypes were tested in Mobile, Alabama, where the results have been promising.

“We’re getting actual data, not just opinions,” said Don Bates. “This data will tell stakeholders exactly how much and what is collected—useful information for those seeking to reduce trash pollution upstream.”

The traps are emptied after each heavy rain by employees recruited, trained and managed by Groundwork Atlanta, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to creating and nurturing productive community partnerships that engage local residents, youth and other stakeholders in all aspects of the work to improve quality of life on the ground. As the trash is removed from the trap, a forensic audit is conducted using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Escaped Trash Assessment Protocols; any material that can be recycled is separated from vegetation and trash. To extend the opportunities for learning and engagement, Boyd Elementary School will participate in the protocol, too.

At the end of this one-year pilot project, CRK will produce a report of our findings and a recommendation as to whether the Litter Gitter can be deployed effectively on a large scale across the Chattahoochee watershed and other urban waterways.

For 25 years, CRK members, volunteers and staff have been walking, wading and paddling in search of litter in our precious river. This effort started as a result of our initial lawsuit against the City of Atlanta when 568 tons of trash was removed from 37 miles of tributaries. In recent years, we have averaged removal of 30 tons of trash annually with the help of 1,000 volunteers. In total, since 1994, CRK with our partners, sponsors and dedicated volunteers, have removed more than two million pounds of trash—equal to 25 full 18-wheel tractor trailers.

“We hope that these Litter Gitter trash traps will complement our ongoing volunteer cleanup activities and will help us be more proactive in the fight against trash in our river.”

- Jason Ulseth, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

“‘We’re getting actual data, not just opinions. This data will tell stakeholders exactly how much and what is collected—useful information for those seeking to reduce trash pollution upstream.’”

- Don Bates, Owner and Founder of Osprey Initiative
CHATTahoochee VALLEY RIVER RALLY

Thank you to Interface, the presenting sponsor of the Chattahoochee Valley River Rally!

And many thanks to the event sponsors:

West Point Development Authority, LaGrange-Troup Chamber of Commerce, Hutchinson Traylor, La Quinta by Wyndham LaGrange, Sweetwater Brewery, Homestyle Country Kitchen and GLL Outdoors.

WILD AND SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL

Many thanks to our Wild and Scenic Film Festival sponsors:

River Advocate: Chester Family Investments, The Erosion Company

River Conservator: Brenau University, In Memory of Bill Vaughn, Mincey Marble, NPDES Training Institute, Peach State Bank, Sweet Water Beer, United Distributors, University of North Georgia Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis

River Steward: Michael Rizzo and Andi Warner

River Patron: Gainesville Flooring, North Georgia Label, Outside World Outfitters, Publix, Unicoi Outfitters, Wildewood Shop Helen

Friend of the River: Bill and Susan Brooksher, Georgia ForestWatch, Mellow Mushroom Green Street, Hemmer Family

UPCOMING EVENTS