



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Georgia river cleanup recruiting volunteers at 60+ sites

Atlanta, GA – Litter pollution is a global issue that threatens not only the health of our rivers, lakes, and oceans, but also the health of the people and wildlife who depend on these resources – including the five million Georgians who rely on the Chattahoochee River for clean drinking water.

As part of its commitment to achieving a Trash-Free Chattahoochee, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper (CRK) will host its 13th annual Sweep the Hooch litter cleanup on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sweep the Hooch is watershed-wide day of service that brings together more than 1,000 volunteers at dozens of parks, tributaries, and access points along the Chattahoochee River. Volunteers clean up litter pollution by walking along outdoor trails, wading in creeks, or paddling in kayaks and canoes at one of more than 60 cleanup sites.

This year, Sweep the Hooch is presented in cooperation with the National Park Service's Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, which will host 18 cleanup sites within the National Park boundaries.

Volunteer cleanups have a measurable impact on keeping our waterways free of litter. In the past 12 years, Sweep the Hooch volunteers have collectively removed 204 tons of trash from the Chattahoochee River watershed.

"Sweep the Hooch has become such a valuable community event that truly benefits our watershed," says Tammy Bates, CRK's Outings Director. "This incredible day of service couldn't happen without all the dedicated volunteers who rally together under the mission of achieving a Trash-Free Chattahoochee for all to enjoy."

Interested volunteers can sign up for a cleanup site near them at sweepthehooch.org. Participation is free, but individual registration is required. CRK will provide necessary supplies, like trash bags and gloves, and will thank volunteers for their dedication with a one-year membership to the organization.

Teams, clubs, and community groups are welcome to participate, but encouraged to sign up early; once a site reaches capacity, registration for that site will close.

CRK is proud to host Sweep the Hooch and [many other litter cleanups](#) throughout the year as part of its mission to secure the protection of the Chattahoochee River now and for future generations. For more information about CRK, visit chattahoochee.org.

Site hosts include:

Atlanta Memorial Park Conservancy
Carroll County
Chattahoochee Hills Parks Commission
Chattahoochee River National Recreational Area
Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
City of Peachtree Corners/Gwinnett County
City of Sugar Hill/Gwinnett County
Civilian Conservationists of LaGrange
Cohutta Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Collier Hills Civic Association
Columbus State University/Tri-Beta; AMSA
Cool River Headwaters Outpost
Dragonfly Trail Network
Friends of Bolton Parks
Friends of Chattahoochee Bend State Park
Gainesville Parks and Recreation
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Groundwork Atlanta
Grove Park Neighborhood Association
High Country Outfitters
Keep Forsyth County Beautiful
Keep Hall Beautiful
Keep Newnan Beautiful
Keep North Fulton Beautiful
Lake Lanier Association
Middle Chattahoochee Sierra Club Group
Murphey Candler Parks Conservancy
Newnan Paddlers/Coweta County
Oconee River Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Peachtree Creek Greenway
Roswell Rotary
South Fork Conservancy
South Fulton Sand Company
Surfrider Foundation of Georgia
Unicoi Outfitters
Upper Chattahoochee Chapter of Trout Unlimited
White County 4-H

CRK is proud to recognize supporters and partners of Sweep the Hooch:

Presenting Partner



River Hero



River Champion



River Benefactor



River Defender

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WEG Electric Corporation

River Advocate

- Archer Western
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Georgia Nature Photographers Association
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About Chattahoochee Riverkeeper:

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's mission is to educate, advocate, and secure the protection and stewardship of the Chattahoochee River – including its lakes, tributaries, and watershed – in order to restore and conserve their ecological health for the people and wildlife that depend on the river system, and in recognition of their important ecosystem functions throughout the region and planet. Established in 1994, the nonprofit organization is the 11th licensed program of more than 350 within the international Waterkeeper Alliance. Since its inception, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper has grown to include more than 10,000 passionate members. Chattahoochee Riverkeeper employs a variety of strategies to protect and preserve the Chattahoochee River, its lakes, and watershed, including water monitoring and testing, education, research, trash cleanups, legal action, and advocacy.

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RIVERKEEPER®**
Keeping watch over our waters since 1994