

# GEORGIA Adopt-A-Stream

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Michele Droszcz and Harold Harbert, Editors



## A Volunteer Monitor Cannot Do It Alone!

Public outreach is probably the most important activity you can do to help protect Georgia's waters. Outreach and education can help develop an awareness of your local stream, wetland or lake. This is your opportunity to tell people what you have learned about your local water body, what the potential threats are and what the community can do to protect the stream, wetland or lake. We ask that you conduct at least one outreach activity each year.

Most of the threats to your adopted water body come from the everyday activities of you and your neighbors. In order to reduce those threats, you first have to educate yourself and your neighbors. Then you have to see the link between your actions and the threatened water body. Finally, you have to decide it is important enough to change your behaviors or take action.

Taking others through the process from education to action is not easy but it can be done. Each community is different and you may have to try a few outreach techniques. For more information, contact Georgia Adopt-A-Stream or attend our workshop on August 5 at Emory University.

## Mark Your Calendars! Reaching Out Without Burning Out: Effective Outreach Techniques

Georgia Adopt-A-Stream, Peavine Watershed Alliance and Emory University Office of Governmental and Community Affairs invite you to spend a morning with four dynamic outreach educators. **Reaching Out Without Burning Out: Effective Outreach Techniques** is a three-hour workshop that focuses on successful techniques used to educate groups, market events and draw volunteers. The workshop will be held on Saturday, August 5 at Emory University in White Hall, Room 112 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Workshop Schedule

9:00 a.m.

#### **Welcome**

Michele Droszcz, Georgia Adopt-A-Stream

9:15 a.m.

#### **How To Take Your Message To A Variety of Audiences**

Na'Taki Osborne, National Wildlife Federation

9:45 a.m.

#### **Give Them The Best and Cut Out The Rest: Presentation Techniques for the Timid Speaker**

Petey Giroux, Georgia Project WET

10:15 a.m.

#### **Break**

Coffee and Pastries Provided By Emory University

10:45 a.m.

#### **Marketing Your Project And Drawing 3,500 Volunteers**

Dr. Becky Champion, Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center

11:15 a.m.

#### **Reaching Beyond Your Resource Limitations: From 1 Coordinator To 7,000 Participants**

Harold Harbert, Georgia Adopt-A-Stream

For directions to Emory University, White Hall, go to [www.riversalive.org/aas.htm](http://www.riversalive.org/aas.htm) or call Michele at 404-675-1636.

## The Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia



The Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia is a self-governed, non-profit organization that promotes communication and education among professionals in the field of environmental education in Georgia. Georgia Adopt-A-Stream has recently partnered with EEA to produce next year's conference! For more information on EEA, go to their website at [www.eealliance.org](http://www.eealliance.org).

### The Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer Celebration Was A Great Success

Keep Walton Beautiful hosted the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream volunteer recognition celebration this year on the Apalachee River! Universal Rundle, a Walton County based company, donated funds to Keep Walton Beautiful towards the effort of educating the citizens of Walton and neighboring counties about water quality and, specifically, the Apalachee River.



*An estimated 40 volunteers enjoyed the morning, canoeing down the Apalachee River.*



*In the afternoon, 100 volunteers gathered on the banks of the Apalachee to enjoy a nice lunch, live music by Christian/Durand and a sing-along with Mama Bass and the Mud Sliders.*

## Adopt-A-Stream Calendar of Events

The following are workshops, taught by certified AAS trainers, which provide training in visual, biological and chemical monitoring of streams and wetlands. Please call to register.

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>To Register</b>
Chemical	Fulton Co. AAS	July 1	N. Fulton	404-730-8006
Visual/Chemical	City of Atlanta	July 8	TBA	404-330-6980
Biological	Fulton Co. AAS	July 15	N. Fulton	404-730-8006
Biological	City of Atlanta	July 22	Atlanta	404-330-6980
Biological	Rockdale Co. AAS	July 29	Rockdale Co.	770-918-6799
Visual/Chemical/Bio.	Peavine Watershed Alliance	Aug 3 & 4	Peavine Watershed	404-508-7603
Visual/Chemical	Fulton Co. AAS	Aug 5	Cochran Mill	404-730-8006
Biological	Athens AAS	Aug 5	Sandy Creek Ntr. Ctr.	706-613-3615
Visual/Chemical	City of Atlanta	Aug 12	Atlanta	404-330-6980
Visual/Chemical	Athens AAS	Aug 19	Sandy Creek Ntr. Ctr.	706-613-3615
Visual/Chemical	Rockdale Co. AAS	Aug 19	Rockdale Co.	770-918-6799
Biological	Fulton Co. AAS	Aug 19	S. Fulton	404-730-8006
Monitoring Wetlands	GA AAS	Sept 2	Newton Co.	404-675-1636
Visual/Chemical	Fulton Co. AAS	Sept 9	N. Fulton	404-730-8006
Biological	Fulton Co. AAS	Sept 23	N. Fulton	404-730-8006
Getting Started w/AAS	Clayton Co. AAS	Sept 30	Newman Wetland Ctr.	404-675-1636

There's more! AAS workshops are conducted throughout the State. Call one of these numbers to learn about upcoming workshops in your region of the State.

<b>Where</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>To Register</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Coastal GA	Dr. Joe Richardson	912-356-2809	richards@tigerpaw.ssu.peachnet.edu
West GA	Dr. Becky Champion	706-687-4090	champion_becky@colstate.edu
Central GA	Sylbie Yon	706-485-9243	sayon@peachnet.campuscwix.net
South GA	Dr. David Hedgepeth	912-333-5611	dhedgepe@valdosta.edu

## Walking Through A Wetland: Wetlands Of Georgia

Al Tate, from Fernbank Science Center, will take us on a tour of wetland soils and plants along the beautiful Alcovy River. Join us and learn about wetlands, wetland soils and plants and wetland functions and values. You will be introduced to wetland monitoring methods and resources available to help you learn about your local wetland. To register for this workshop, which will be held September 2, contact Michele at 404-675-1636.

## Results of the Third Annual Oconee River Rendezvous

More than 100 volunteers participated in the Third Annual Oconee River Rendezvous sponsored by the Upper Oconee Watershed Network and Sandy Creek Nature Center. Citizens spent the day learning about water quality and their watershed while taking part in a one-day water monitoring effort to get a water quality "snap shot" from 173 monitoring sites throughout Clarke County. Volunteers were assigned sites and given a map to each site. Volunteers conducted visual surveys and collected water samples in marked sample bottles. These water samples were brought back to Sandy Creek Nature Center, where UGA students tested the samples for turbidity, acidity, dissolved oxygen and fecal coliform bacteria. The data was compiled and presented at a public meeting in Athens. For more information, contact Dana Poole and 706-425-9297 or join the Upper Oconee Watershed Network listserve by sending a "subscribe" message to subscribe-uown@egroups.com.

## October is Rivers Alive Month! Dive In!

Rivers Alive would like to thank all 1999 river cleanup event organizers. Thanks to your support we had the best cleanup effort ever, with over 60 local cleanups, more than 7,000 volunteers, and an incredible 100,000 pounds of garbage collected! This year, the Rivers Alive Steering Committee hopes to increase our efforts to over 10,000 volunteers and at least 75 local events. To meet this goal, WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Please consider organizing a local Rivers Alive cleanup event this year. The Rivers Alive Steering Committee is trying to streamline the process for organizers and volunteers to make it easier than ever to get involved in protecting Georgia's waters! For example, this year we are providing the following information on-line at our new web site ([www.riversalive.org](http://www.riversalive.org) or [www.riversalive.com](http://www.riversalive.com)):

- Registration form for event organizers;
- Organizer packets, including ideas to make your event more successful, sample press releases, waivers, and much more;
- Maps and detailed contact information so that volunteers can find your event; and
- Even links to your own local Rivers Alive cleanup web pages!

**AUGUST 1, 2000 IS THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE TO HAVE YOUR EVENT LISTED ON THE RIVERS ALIVE T-SHIRT, SO PLEASE REGISTER TODAY!!!**

If you have any questions about your event, contact the Events Committee Chair, Ellen Sutherland of Georgia River Network, at 404-524-6774 (local), 888-RIVER-GA (toll-free) or [sutherland@garivers.org](mailto:sutherland@garivers.org).

For general questions about Rivers Alive or organizing a cleanup, please contact Harold Harbert of Georgia Adopt-A-Stream at 404-675-1639 (local), 888-373-5947 (toll free) or [harold\\_harbert@mail.dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:harold_harbert@mail.dnr.state.ga.us).



The Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Newsletter is published six times per year. For More information about the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream program or to contribute to the newsletter, call or write to:

**Georgia Adopt-A-Stream  
Environmental Protection Division  
4220 International Parkway, Suite 101  
Atlanta, GA 30354  
(404) 675-1639  
[www.riversalive.org/aas.htm](http://www.riversalive.org/aas.htm)**