GEORGIA FORESTWATCH

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FORESTWATCH JOURNAL

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Join us for a Meet and Greet event at the Georgia ForestWatch office, where you'll have the unique opportunity to engage with the passionate and dedicated team as we celebrate the International Day of Forests.

This special gathering brings together community members, nature enthusiasts, and those curious about forest conservation to connect with the board and staff behind Georgia ForestWatch's impactful work.

Come share your ideas, meet our new board president, and connect with others who care about the **Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest** and its future.

Whether you're an avid hiker, a nature lover, or intrigued by environmental stewardship, please join us!

Food and Beverages will be provided. RSVP **here**.

Share Your Love of the Forest this Valentine's Day

This Valentine's Day, go beyond the ordinary and give the gift of nature with a membership to Georgia ForestWatch! Show your love for the environment and make memories together amidst the beauty of our beloved forests.

Why choose GAFW for your Valentine's gift? GAFW is not just a membership; it's an opportunity to foster a love for the environment and contribute to the conservation of Georgia's forests. Your gift goes beyond the ordinary, making a lasting impact on the natural beauty we all cherish.

Get your **gift membership here**. (Select the "Gift a Membership" option.)

GAFW Announces Director of Operations

The board of directors of GAFW is thrilled to announce that Maria Klouda has been promoted to Director of Operations, effective 1 February. Maria joined Georgia ForestWatch in February 2022 as our Communications Coordinator and has been a vital team leader since her first day with us. In her new role, she will manage the day-to-day operations necessary to ensure that GAFW continues its mission of

preserving and protecting our national forests.

Maria brings professional experience in publishing, fundraising, marketing, advertising, brand management, and event planning. She's a strategic thinker, a passionate environmental advocate, and a lifelong communicator. Her writing has been published in various outlets and has earned a Pushcart Prize nomination. Typically regional in focus, her pieces rely heavily on a sense of place. Environmental issues often drive the topics of her work.

A lifelong resident of Georgia, Maria enjoys traveling and hiking. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing from Reinhardt University, an MBA from Brenau University, and a BBA in Marketing from the University of West Georgia.

Please join our board in thanking Maria for taking on this newly expanded role for the forests!

Donate to GAFW Today

Upcoming GAFW Outings & Outreach

Saturday, February 17 - **Outing! Ivy Pull at Warwoman Dell with Melanie**

Tuesday, February 27 - Join Us! Young Harris College Career Fair

Thursday, February 29 - **Join Us! USFS Blue Ridge Ranger District Open House**

Saturday, March 2 - **Outing! Brasstown Bald via Jack's Gap with Sara**

Saturday, March 16 - Join Us! Etowah Wildlife Expo

Thursday, March 21 - **Join Us! GAFW Board & Staff Meet & Greet**

Saturday, March 23 - Save the Date! Sweep the Hooch

Thursday, April 4 – (Rescheduled: New Date) **Outing! Chattahoochee Nature Center Guided Tour**

Saturday, April 20 - **Join Us! Waterfest**

Have you signed our Outing! **waiver**?

GAFW Outings on Meetup

If this email was forwarded to you, **please register here** to receive GAFW updates.

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Thank You

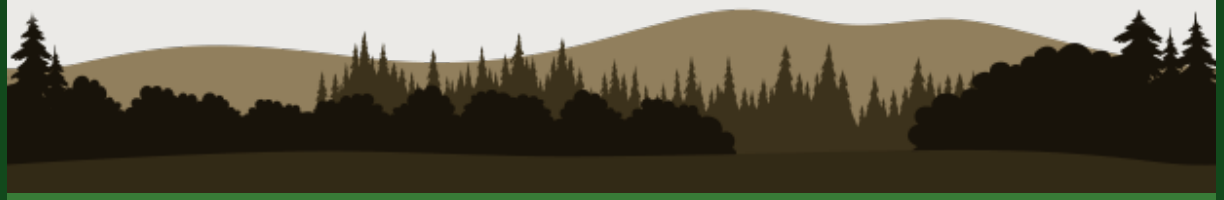
Georgia ForestWatch is the only nonprofit organization with a mission solely dedicated to ensuring the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests remain healthy and available for future generations, and we can only pursue our mission with the support of the community.

Please support our mission by ensuring your **membership is up to date** and providing **additional support** as you are able.

On behalf of our entire national forests in our beautiful state, we thank you for your support.

Our Mission

Our mission is to preserve and protect our national forests.



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