May 9, 2024

FORESTWATCH JOURNAL

Volume 3, Issue 7

Georgia ForestWatch is a dedicated nonprofit committed to preserving and protecting Georgia's national forests.

Our mission revolves around three core principles: protecting our forests and streams, advocating for natural processes, and identifying opportunities to improve forest management. These principles are the foundation of our work, and we are reaching out to you today to ask for your help in furthering our cause.

Georgia's national forests, crucial for our communities' well-being and our planet's health, are under immediate threat. Deforestation, stream pollution, and unsustainable forest management practices are rampant. Our organization is on the front lines, but we need your urgent support to make a substantial impact.

Here's how your support can contribute to our mission:

1. Protection of Forests and Streams: Your contribution will enable us to implement targeted initiatives to protect our forests and ensure the purity of our streams. This includes efforts to combat deforestation, preserve biodiversity, and restore damaged ecosystems.
2. Advocacy for Natural Processes: With your support, we can amplify our advocacy efforts to promote the importance of natural processes in

maintaining the balance of our ecosystems. This involves educating policymakers, communities, and stakeholders about the significance of embracing nature's inherent wisdom.

3. Improving Forest Management: Your financial support will facilitate research and implementation of sustainable forest management practices. By identifying and promoting responsible approaches, we can contribute to Georgia's national forests' long-term health and resilience.

We recognize the challenges you and many others face. Your contribution, regardless of its size, will have a significant impact. By supporting us, you are investing in the future of our environment, the health of our communities, and the preservation of Georgia's natural heritage.

Thank you for considering supporting Georgia ForestWatch. Your contribution, no matter how small, will help us create a lasting legacy of conservation and sustainability for future generations, ensuring the health and resilience of Georgia's national forests.

Donate to GAFW Today

Confluence 2024

GAFW Board Member Janet Westervelt recently had the privilege of attending Confluence 2024, **Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's** Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Conference. This annual weekend event was held at the Unicoi State Park and Lodge by GA Adopt-A-Stream, a program of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD). GA Adopt-A-Stream helps educate volunteers to monitor chemical, bacterial, macroinvertebrate, visual, and amphibian monitoring in their local waterways.

Friday evening, they started with a social networking event that included dinner, a Water Science Poster Session, and a water-themed Trivia Contest. Saturday and Sunday were filled with various impactful workshops, awards, raffles, and auctions.

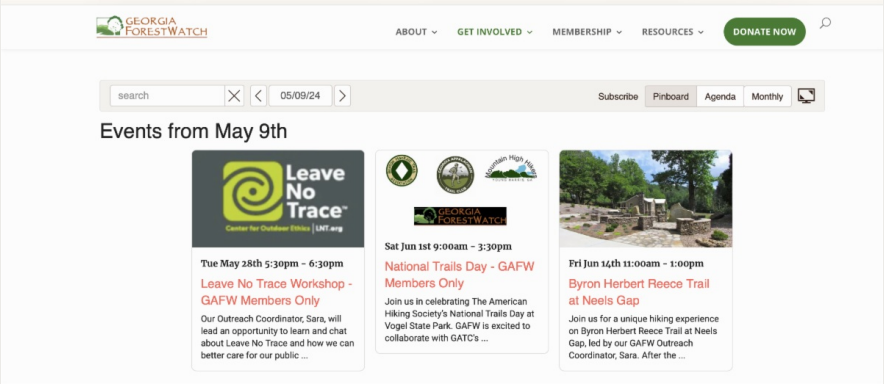
Workshop topics ranged from water policy to microplastics and dam removal. She participated in a streambank restoration workshop, allowing participants to focus on

different tactics to help establish a vegetated and stabilized streambank. They used biodegradable geotextile mats, rocks, and wooden stakes before pounding in live black willow stakes and ferns.

Many of Georgia's rivers have their headwaters in the **Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest**. Protecting and monitoring these headwater streams is a large part of helping to preserve our forests. Sediment is the most common pollutant in our streams, rivers, and lakes. It can come from eroding stream banks, construction, and dirt roads.

We at GAFW hope everyone will be aware of bare soil and learn about ways to help prevent sediment from filling our waterways.

GAFW Outings!



We are excited to announce that GAFW Outings! are now available on our **website**.

As part of our commitment to streamline communication and accessibility, please note that starting May 23rd, 2024, Outings! will no longer be posted on Meetup.

Stay connected directly through our newsletters, website, and social media channels for the latest updates and to join us in our mission.

Upcoming GAFW Outings & Outreach

Saturday, May 11 - Outing! (RESCHEDULED) Foraging for All Things Edible with Michelle Withrow

Thursday, May 23 - Outing! - **Mt Yonah Geology with Bill**

Saturday, May 25 - **Outing!** GAFW Members Only - **Hiking, Looking, and Seeing: An Artsy Wildflower Hike**

Tuesday, May 28 - Outing! - **Leave No Trace Workshop**

Saturday, June 1 - Join Us! GAFW Members Only - **National Trails Day**

Friday, June 14 - Outing! - **Byron Herbert Reece Trail & Concert**

Saturday, November 2 - SAVE THE DATE! GAFW Fall Retreat

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

GAFW Outings

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

Share This Email | Share This Email | Share This Email

Thank You

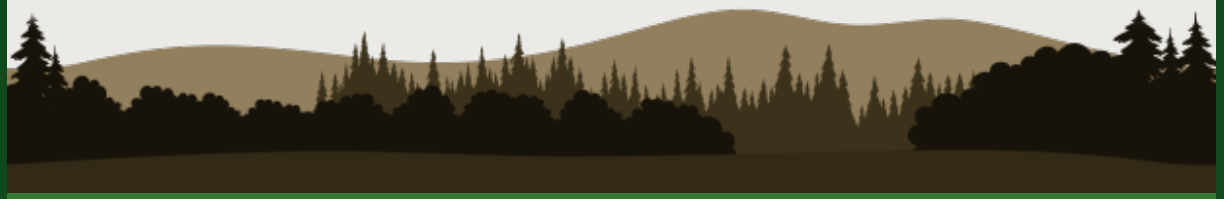
Georgia ForestWatch is the only nonprofit organization with a mission solely dedicated to ensuring the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests remain healthy and available for future generations, and we can only pursue our mission with the support of the community.

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.



Connect with us

Georgia Forestwatch | 81 Crown Mtn Place Building C, Suite 200 | Dahlonega, GA 30533 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!