



Thank You, Athens, for Another Successful Rivers Alive!

On Saturday, September 24, 307 volunteers gathered at Dudley Park for a kick-off celebration before spreading out to 16 different cleanup sites around Athens. They managed to remove 5,150 pounds of trash, 1,070 pounds of recycling, and 228 tires from our waterways, including the Middle Oconee River, the North Oconee River, Pulaski Creek, Brooklyn Creek, and Carr Creek.

These Athens volunteers join an estimated 25,000 others statewide participating in the annual river cleanup. This fall, over 200 cleanups will collect trash and similar debris in streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and the ocean, from Tallulah Gorge in North Georgia to the Satilla River in the South



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Utilities/Water Conservation Office, ACC Solid Waste, ACC Transportation and Public Works/Stormwater, Big Dogs on the River, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, the Oconee River Land Trust, the United Way of Northeast Georgia, the Upper Oconee Watershed Network, and Watershed UGA.

View an entire album of photos from the event [here](#).

[https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMQ7UIw7Y_paHB1fFSI6PVYITaaORhJl4iwpUZnupoH-uxSmp3GsHWnohnX7tzdhA?key=OW9ObxNHTTVwOEJocoFhTkNCZDFuQzliUTVDUoh3]



Volunteers from the Middle Oconee Float site. Photo courtesy of Jerry Daniel.



Volunteers waiting to be briefed on safety. Photo courtesy of Carla Francis.



A group cleaning up Pulaski Creek. Photo courtesy of Carla Francis.

Stream Walks Happening in Athens-Clarke County

Athens-Clarke County will spend the next year and a half completing and updating Watershed Management Plans for all county waterways. As part of this project, from October through December, a team of consultants and Athens-Clarke County Stormwater Staff will be conducting stream walks and assessments on Bear Creek, Carr Creek, Malcolm Branch, the Middle Oconee River, the North Oconee River, Sandy Creek, and Sulphur Springs. These stream walks will provide data critical for the development of Watershed

Management Plans, which will highlight concerns and opportunities for improvement in each waterway. If you have any questions about the stream walks or the Watershed Management Plans, please contact us at stormwater@athensclarkecounty.com.



Need a Service Project?

Still need to earn some community service hours? Have a group looking for a service project? ACC Stormwater offers a number of volunteer opportunities for individuals or groups looking to get involved with our local streams and rivers. We

host stream cleanups, storm drain decaling sessions, and rain barrel projects. Contact stormwater@athensclarkecounty.com to schedule a service-learning activity for your group today!

Upcoming Events

Water Smart Rain Garden Workshop **Wednesday, October 5, 6-8pm** **ACC Planning Auditorium (120 W. Dougherty Street)**

This informative and engaging workshop will cover an introduction to rain gardens and provide the tools necessary to begin designing and building your own rain garden. The workshop will include an hour-long seminar followed by an hour-long walking tour of some rain gardens.

Please register for the workshop by emailing cecile.riker@athensclarkecounty.com [<mailto:cecile.riker@athensclarkecounty.com>].

This workshop is a partnership between the Athens-Clarke County Extension Office, Stormwater Management Program, and Water Conservation Office.

Fire Up the Hydrants Unveiling **Saturday, October 8, 10-12pm** **College Avenue in Downtown Athens**

functional, life-saving pieces of art. Hydrants, load stools, and fish are just a few of the elements brought to the downtown area through the Fire Up the Hydrants project. Make plans to get the first glimpse of all the pieces at the "unveiling" on October 8 from 10:00 - 12:00pm. There will be activities for children, an artist market, and a meet and greet session with some of the artists who painted hydrants.

Scary, Oozy Slime Day **Saturday, October 22, 4-7pm** **Sandy Creek Nature Center (205 Old Commerce Road)**

Come celebrate all things creepy, crawly and disgusting during this event. We'll help you to see why Scary, Oozy, and Slimy things in the natural world are good. This year's theme is "Life in the Dark." Learn about space, caves, the deep sea, and nocturnal animals during the event. Register in advance and bring a receipt or pay at the door. The fee is \$3 for ACC residents and \$5 for Non-ACC residents. Children under 3 years are free.

Registration for the Athens Area Master Gardeners **October – November 2017**

The Athens-Clarke County Extension Office is currently accepting applications for the 2017 Athens Area Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program! Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from January through March 2017 at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia. The Athens Area Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program is an adult education course that provides training in horticulture principles, gardening practices, and pest management. The cost for the program is \$210 and includes 50 hours of course instruction, the Georgia Master Gardener textbook, a name badge, a certificate, and graduation reception upon course completion. Applications must be submitted by November 1, 2016.



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For more information and to download the 2017 application, visit <http://ugaextension.org/county-offices/clarke/agriculture-and-natural-resources/master-gardener-extension-volunteer-program.html> [<http://ugaextension.org/county-offices/clarke/agriculture-and-natural-resources/master-gardener-extension-volunteer-program.html>], email atedrow@uga.edu [<mailto:atedrow@uga.edu>] or call (706) 613-3640.

Contact Us


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www.athensclarkecounty.com/stormwater

Notice Dumping?

Call the Stormwater Hotline at 706-614-1282 if you see someone dumping into a storm drain or notice flooding due to clogged drains or pipes.

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