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## SWAP Priority Lands Permanently Protected

By Shirl Parsons, Conservation Issues Coordinator

In December of 2007 Governor Sonny Perdue stood before a group of hunters, anglers and conservationists on the bank of Corley Lake in Paulding County overlooking the Paulding Forest and announced a monumental investment in land conservation. 20,000 acres of exceptional forest lands in Paulding, Decatur and McIntosh Counties will be permanently protected and managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as wildlife management areas (WMAs) to be enjoyed by hunters, anglers, families, outdoor enthusiasts, and future generations. The three tracts of land are priorities of the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) and will be purchased through the Georgia Land Conservation Program, by the state of Georgia along with federal, local and private partners.

**PAULDING FOREST** includes 25,700 acres leased by the Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Forestry Commission. These leases are

*continued on page 5*



Silver Lake at Lake Seminole WMA  
Photo by John M. Hall



The NASP (National Archery in Schools Program) Georgia Fun Shoot held its annual tournament at the Great Outdoors Show with 297 kids competing to represent the state at the national tournament to be held in Kentucky in April. Qualifying were Walton County's Youth Elementary School, Marion Middle School of Marion County and Bishop Hall Charter School, located near Columbus. More about the Great Outdoors Show on page 9.

# The Call



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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### Milestones and More

Our spring 2008 Sportsmen's Show — newly branded this year as the Great Outdoors Show and still featuring Fisharama® and Turkeyrama® — was a huge success by any measure. Available vendor space was completely sold out. We had more fishing gear and turkey hunting products than at any time in the past dozen or so years. We added a new component for sportsmen and women: outdoor sports items such as kayaks, tents, mountain bikes and related gear for people who just love the outdoors and appreciate wildlife and habitat conservation.

But the real gold seal of success: Attendance was up 12 percent over last year's show. We appreciate and value every person who attended the show, viewing vendor offerings, visiting the seminars, and talking with those of us who conveyed information about the critical conservation issues we face.

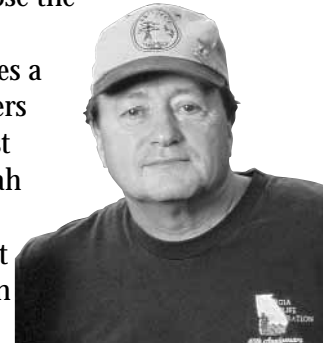
This positive note provides a fitting opportunity to announce two milestones relating to the Georgia Wildlife Federation's Sportsmen's Shows.

First, Doug Rithmire, long-time Show Director, is stepping down from this position to go fishing and hunting — part time, that is. Doug has been the face of our Sportsmen's Shows for years and has served GWF with distinction and dignity. He'll still be working on vendor sales for the shows, but will have time to enjoy some time with his family, his boat and his hunting camp.

Secondly, Sam Stowe has officially stepped up to take over duties as Show Director. He's been with GWF for two years — and, indeed, shares the kudos for our Great Outdoors Show success. But now he moves to the forefront to help take our Sportsmen's Shows to the next level.

I hope you'll read through this issue of the Call carefully. Mill Creek Nature Center Volunteer Coordinator Christina Marr reports on the 2008 schedule of activities at MCNC — the best ever; and Terry Tatum, Vice President of Development reports on a new, higher profile recycling program for the Alcovy Conservation Center. Shirl Parsons, Conservation Issues Coordinator, reports on important strides in statewide land conservation, namely Georgia's acquisition of three parcels of critical habitat; and on GWF's position on attempts to close the Anderson Creek OHV Trail System in the Chattahoochee National Forest. She also showcases a key GWF program: educating sportsmen and others about the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), most recently at the Great Outdoors Show. Finally, Sarah Barmeyer, Water Issues Coordinator, provides an update on the flawed statewide water management plan created by the state Environmental Protection Division and rubberstamped by the General Assembly, along with some of the activity that it has spawned under the Gold Dome.

Conservation can never take a vacation; I hope you'll continue to support our efforts to ensure the wise stewardship of Georgia's natural resources, including the wildlife and habitat it depends upon.



*Jerry L. McCollum*

Jerry L. McCollum  
President and CEO

# Georgia Wildlife Federation Supports Closing Anderson Creek Off-Highway Vehicle Area

By Shirl Parsons, Conservation Issues Coordinator

Unregulated off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is one of the largest and fastest growing threats to the natural and ecological integrity of our national forests. The number of OHV users has increased tremendously, from 5 million in 1972 to almost 36 million in 2000. Each year hundreds of miles of unauthorized roads and trails are created by thoughtless cross-country use. Unregulated use creates erosion, water degradation and destruction of wildlife habitat.

The Anderson Creek OHV Trail System, located off State Highway 52 in Gilmer County, is one of eleven OHV trail systems in the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests which provide a total of 116 miles of trail riding. Anderson Creek, with nine miles of designated trails, is one of three trail systems which allowed for full-size passenger vehicles, as opposed to trails which allow only smaller all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and trail bikes. During the 1980s Anderson Creek was established as an OHV area at a time when OHV recreation was considered a low-use activity. Back then it was mostly used by trail bike riders but as the popularity of OHVs increased the area was also used by four-wheel drive vehicles and ATVs. The area became riddled with over fifteen miles of user-created trails, often located along or through streams, leading away from designated trails into the forest or onto private lands, creating a nuisance for local residents. Significant resource damage occurred, including erosion, compaction, damage to vegetation, riparian areas and aquatic habitat. In 2003 the National Forest Service (NFS) temporarily closed the area to the public in order to develop a new management strategy.

Since 2003 the NFS has spent tens of thousands of dollars to rehabilitate the area. Recently the Chattahoochee National Forest released an Environmental Assessment for the Anderson Creek OHV Trail System and presented three alternatives for management of the area. Georgia Wildlife Federation (GWF) submitted comments in support of the alternative to permanently close the area to OHV use, prevent illegal access by placement of physical barriers, decommission the trail system, ensure rehabilitation and install erosion control measures. This alternative is the proposed action by the NFS. GWF recognizes that there are places in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest where OHV recreational use can be conducted in a safe way that does not degrade soil, water and other natural resources of the Forest. All OHV use should be limited to such areas.

Anderson Creek is clearly not one of the areas where OHV use should be allowed. Closure of this area will not adversely affect OHV recreational use in the national forest since the Anderson Creek OHV area is only one of eleven such trail systems in the forest. The Whissenhunt OHV Trail System, is just twelve miles due east.

Anderson Creek and its tributary Little Anderson Creek (alternatively known as Duff or Klontz Creek) are some of the

.....continued on page 4.



**Thoughtless use of off road vehicles creates erosion, compaction, and damage to vegetation and habitat, as evidenced by photos of the Anderson Creek OHV area. Photos by David Govus.**

# State Water Plan Leaves Unanswered Concerns

By Sarah Gaines Barmeyer, Water Issues Coordinator

In an unprecedented burst of activity during the first week of the Legislative session, General Assembly members passed Georgia's very first Statewide Water Management Plan. It took four years to develop the water plan, a document supposed to shape the way we will manage our water and waterways for years to come.

However, a closer look shows that this plan — rubberstamped by the Georgia General Assembly — is toothless and unenforceable. Worse, there is no money in the budget to fund the water plan. Even in the face of severe drought, Georgia's leaders have refused to recognize the need for comprehensive water planning that is based on scientific reality. It leaves much work to be done to ensure that we have enough clean water for generations to come.

The Georgia Water Coalition believes that our state's waterways must be managed by a statewide water plan that: (1) protects downstream communities; (2) is adequately funded; (3) requires efficient water use everywhere, always; (4) ensures water clean enough to drink and fish safe enough to eat; and (5) provides for public input and local action. The water plan that was passed by the General Assembly misses the mark. Now we must find a way to make these priorities a reality.

At this critical juncture in Georgia water planning, we cannot allow our leaders to continue pushing difficult decisions into the future. The GWC is working with legislators to fix the flaws in the water plan through new laws focusing on criteria for interbasin transfers and new reservoirs, water efficiency requirements, regional planning based on river basins, rather than political boundaries, and local appointments to the regional planning councils.

For more information about the water plan and the Georgia Water Coalition, please visit [www.georgiawater.org](http://www.georgiawater.org).

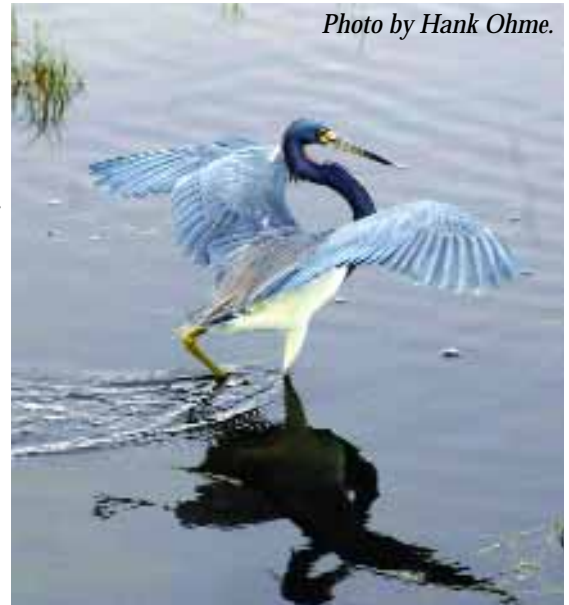


Photo by Hank Ohme.

*Anderson Creek.....continued from page 3*

finest wild trout streams in Georgia with a reproducing population of Brown and Rainbow trout. There are many reports from GWF members of trophy Brown trout being caught in Anderson Creek. Unfortunately the Anderson Creek OHV area, sited on the headwaters of these streams, has had a very negative impact on the water quality of these streams. The original trail configuration actually had a section of OHV trail that was literally in Little Anderson Creek. Over the years the area became crisscrossed with illegal user-created trails that caused both these fine streams to run red with silt upon the slightest rain event. For a number of years ATV riders were traveling up and down Little Anderson Creek and through a culvert underneath Forest Service road 357, causing near total destruction of the riparian area.

Nothing in this decision will in any way limit other recreational use of this area such as hunting or fishing. At the height of the OHV use of the area the noise level was such that most hunters abandoned the area. This area contains prime Black Bear habitat and archery hunters have enjoyed notable success in the area in the last few years. Reports that GWF has received from local members indicate that the hunting and fishing has improved in the area since the OHV closure in 2003.

annual agreements that can be cancelled anytime. The Paulding Forest acquisition will protect 6,873 of these acres to be managed by the Department of Natural Resources as a WMA for outdoor recreational purposes, including hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing and other activities (including a portion of the popular Silver Comet Trail). It also serves as a buffer to Sheffield Forest WMA, an adjacent tract of state-owned land and includes the headwaters of Raccoon Creek, a tributary of the Etowah River that supports populations of the federally protected Cherokee darter and Etowah darter and the state protected greenbreast darter, bigeye chub and bay starvine. Paulding Forest contains approximately 900 acres of the rare montane longleaf forest, a priority habitat for conservation in Georgia.

Money to purchase this tract will come from the residents of Paulding County from a bond referendum approved by voters in 2006, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition Grants, U.S. Forest Service Forest Legacy Grants, the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation and the Conservation Fund.

Another critical acquisition is the 8,430 acre **SILVER LAKE TRACT** at Lake Seminole WMA, in Decatur County near Bainbridge. For decades, the International Paper Company has managed this property, never before open to the public, as Southlands Experimental Forest. The Conservation Fund will purchase the tract from the company and sell it in phases to the State of Georgia. DNR will own the property and manage it as a WMA open to the public for recreational purposes, including excellent fishing. This property with its large stands of native longleaf pine estimated to be 60 - 90 years old hosts a population of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers; and its small isolated wetland ponds are habitat for wood storks and other wading birds. A major focus of the property will be management and restoration activities for the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, Bachman's sparrow and other threatened species.

Funding will come from sales of wildlife vehicle license plates, the state income tax check off, the Weekend for Wildlife, and other voluntary contributions. Additional funding will come from U.S. Fish and Wildlife grants, the Georgia Ornithological Society, and the Conservation Fund.

The 4,162 acre **FORT BARRINGTON TRACT** at the Townsend WMA in McIntosh County is part of a 17.2 mile corridor of conservation lands along the Altamaha River. This acquisition will not only protect critical wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities on the Altamaha River, but will also provide an additional buffer around the Townsend Bombing Range, an important training area for all branches of the U.S. military. The expansive floodplain at Fort Barrington provides important hydrological functions, such as water storage, release and filtering, critical to the health of the Altamaha River estuary. Rare species include the eastern indigo snake and the gopher tortoise.

Funding will come from sales of wildlife vehicle license plates, the state income tax check off, the Weekend for Wildlife, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, the National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program, the Georgia Wetland Trust Fund and the Nature Conservancy. 🌿



**Paulding Forest provides important habitat for wildlife and watershed protection and will provide permanent protection for portions of Raccoon Creek. Photos courtesy of GA DNR.**



# State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAP) On Display at the Great Outdoors Show

By Shirl Parsons, Conservation Issues Coordinator

The Georgia Wildlife Federation's Great Outdoors Show in Perry provided an excellent opportunity for GWF to inform sportsmen about how the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) improves wildlife habitat for both game and non-game species and creates opportunities for high quality hunting and fishing. This message was the focus of the GWF SWAP display; information about the SWAP was distributed to thousands of sportsmen during the three day show.

Developed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) with extensive input from GWF and many others, the SWAP is a proactive plan that identifies ways to conserve wildlife and vital natural areas before they become too rare and expensive to protect. Priority actions identified by the SWAP improve habitat for all wildlife. For example, one SWAP priority is to implement prescribed fire programs to restore and maintain fire-adapted communities. Dove, deer, turkey, quail, and more depend on habitats regenerated by fire. These habitats are declining in extent and condition due to fire suppression. Many private land owners are reluctant to use prescribed fire because of concerns about liability, lack of understanding of the role of fire in some natural environments and a lack of technical expertise.

DNR, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other organizations have formed the Interagency Burn Team (IBT) to conduct prescribed burns on private lands throughout Georgia. While the IBT focuses on private lands, the DNR Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) has also expanded efforts to assess and restore fire-dependent communities on state-owned properties and other public lands. In the Oconee National Forest prescribed fire improves habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker. The mosaic of burned and unburned areas created by prescribed fire tends to maximize "edge effect" which promotes a large and varied wildlife population. In addition, prescribed fire provides more food for wildlife by stimulating fruit and seed production and creating openings for wildlife feeding, travel and dusting.

Invasive exotic species pose a serious threat to agriculture, horticulture, forestry, and wildlife and its habitat. Many of our native species are declining due to increasing competition or habitat degradation caused by invasive species. Another SWAP priority is to combat the problem of invasive species by assessing the threats on public land and other conservation lands, providing technical and informational resources to land managers to control invasive species, and promoting appropriate use of native plant species by public and private land managers. Illegal introduction of flathead catfish into the Satilla River in the 1990's resulted in a decline in populations of the prized redbreast sunfish and bullhead catfish. DNR and the Satilla Riverkeeper have been reducing the flathead catfish population through electrofishing and removal. Through research they hope to identify long-term methods of population control.

Invasive species can alter the species composition and natural community of an area and destroy the food source of native wildlife. Also, the fruits and leaves of some invasive species such as Chinese Tallow can be toxic to fish and wildlife. Control and removal of invasive species will help to restore our waterways, fields and forests, and



**Through SWAP, DNR strives to establish partnerships to conserve high priority aquatic and wetland habitats. Wetlands are primary habitats for hundreds of species of waterfowl, such as this Wood Duck, as well as many other birds, fish and mammals. Photo by Hank Ohme.**

improve opportunities for hunting and fishing in Georgia.

Many actions laid out in the SWAP will benefit streams, rivers and fish populations as DNR strives to establish partnerships to conserve high priority aquatic and wetland habitats. DNR will work closely with the Georgia Department of Transportation to identify, assess, and acquire properties with high quality wetlands and streams. Emphasis will be given to sites that protect wildlife corridors, enhance manageability of existing conservation lands, and provide opportunities for public recreation. Wetlands are primary habitats for hundreds of species of waterfowl as well as many other birds, fish and mammals. Wetlands provide a valuable service by naturally filtering and recharging water, providing better habitat for fish as well as clean drinking water. In addition, they provide sources of nutrients in the water food cycles and nursery grounds and sanctuaries for fish.

Another SWAP priority is to expand technical and financial assistance programs to improve wildlife habitat management on private lands, accounting for 90 percent of state land. The Bobwhite Quail Initiative (BQI) and the Forest Stewardship Program offer incentives to private landowners to protect and improve natural resources on their property. The BQI aims to increase the abundance of nesting and brood rearing habitat for Bobwhite Quail on private lands. Bobwhite Quail have been in a serious state of decline since the 1960's due to loss of habitat. Under the Forest Stewardship Program resource professionals from both public and private sectors produce detailed management plans for private landowners, called Forest Stewardship Plans. With the help of these plans, landowners learn how to manage their property for multiple uses, such as hunting and timber production. 🌿



**Another SWAP priority is to expand technical and financial assistance programs, such as the Bobwhite Quail Initiative, to improve wildlife habitat management on private lands. Photo courtesy of UGA.**

## GWF Expands Recycling Emphasis

*By Terry Tatum, Vice President - Development*

**W**ith a grant from the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation, GWF will initiate a very visible recycling, composting, and education program at the Alcovy Conservation Center (ACC) in Covington, Georgia.

Each year the Alcovy Conservation Center is the venue for a hundred or more events held by conservation organizations, sportsmen's groups, schools and education centers, local companies and civic organizations and government agencies. Together with regular office work, all this activity generates an above-average volume of refuse, most of which is recyclable. While GWF already promotes recycling, we will be an even more proactive recycling advocate, raising awareness and practicing what we preach by consistently providing user-friendly recycling containers and posting educational materials in all our facilities.

With these grant funds, GWF will purchase portable recycling containers to be used at the various ACC facilities during events and meetings, as well as for use in the regular office activities. We will also build composting bins, some which will be adapted to vermiculture (worm farming) as an educational opportunity compatible with the Schoolyard Wildlife Habitat program of GWF. Interpretive materials (signage, handouts, etc.) will be developed, and information will be posted on [www.gwf.org](http://www.gwf.org).

The Georgia Wildlife Federation is a recognized conservation leader in not only the state, but in the nation. The educational opportunities provided by GWF begin from the moment a visitor turns into the driveway at the ACC. The ACC is home to several acres of wildlife habitat demonstration gardens, including a mountain stream habitat, a pitcher plant bog, a granite outcrop, woodland gardens, and meadow habitats. Detailed signage and hundreds of plant species are an excellent introduction to Georgia's native flora. The recycling program is yet another step toward development of a comprehensive environmental ethic, one in which maximum natural resources conservation becomes second nature.

Community support will continue to come from those businesses and organizations that use the facilities at the Alcovy Conservation Center. GWF has ongoing and special relationships with groups in Newton County

*continued on page 11*

## Mill Creek Nature Center Update

By Christina Marr, Volunteer & Program Coordinator - MCNC

A new year has started and that means exciting new programs coming to Mill Creek Nature Center. As GWF progresses toward a gateway building for the facility, several new programs are underway that will allow the community opportunities to discover and explore this unique habitat.

On February 9th, several volunteers gathered to start learning about the new programs in an effort to become lead volunteer naturalists for MCNC. As more programs are being offered to the public, there will be a need for more knowledgeable people to lead these programs (presently I lead all the educational programs offered at the center). These brave volunteers are taking part in a 3-part training session that will cover the information needed to lead programs such as Beginning Bird classes, Wetland Walks and Girl Scout badge programs. Many thanks to those volunteers who have stepped up to not only increase their knowledge of the natural world but also for giving of their time!

Here's a brief introduction of what will be offered this spring, summer and fall at Mill Creek Nature Center.

**"Let's Learn About Birds" Beginning Bird Class.** Being held in April 2008 for students ages 7-10 years old and will be offered in the fall for high school students through adults.

**"Wetland Walks."** This fun, family event introduces people to wetlands, the animals and plants that live there and why wetlands are important habitats. Will include hands-on activities. This is currently being offered in May 2008 to celebrate American Wetlands Month.

**3rd Annual "American Wetlands Month" Poster Contest.** Contest is open to Gwinnett County students in K-5th grade. This year's theme is "Climate Change and Wetlands." Posters are due April 30th and more information will be available at [www.gwf.org](http://www.gwf.org) beginning March 1st.

**Girl Scout Leaders "Wetlands Patch" Event.** A "Wetlands Patch" for the Girl Scout Council was created by the Georgia Wildlife Federation and the Newman Wetlands Center several years ago. On June 7th, 2008, Girl Scout leaders will be able to attend this event which will familiarize the leaders with program activities. This badge will be offered this fall at MCNC.

Other Girl Scout Badge programs: Eco-Explorer, Senses, Watching Wildlife (Brownie Try-Its); Earth Connections, Wildlife (Junior Badges)

It's an exciting year at Mill Creek Nature Center, filled with new programs, new volunteer opportunities and much, much more! 🌱



Photo by Hank Ohme



Photo by Suzanne Downing



Photo by Hank Ohme

**Top: Christina Marr, MCNC Volunteer Coordination, leads last year's Wetlands Walk. Watch for this year's Walk in May. Center: A male Eastern Towhee was spotted in MCNC's first Backyard Bird Count in February 2008. Bottom: Brownies from Troop 1925 in Gwinnett County bond during a Badge program at MCNC in 2007.**

# Everything Outdoors Highlighted in Perry

By Sam Stowe

Georgia Wildlife Federation held its new combined super Great Outdoors Show on February 8-10 at Perry's Georgia National Fairgrounds. Key words of the weekend: More and better. We had the biggest gathering of vendors for fishing enthusiasts in years at the Fisharama® segment. The Turkeyrama® provided everything a turkey hunter could wish for. A new emphasis spotlighted outdoor sports from kayaking to mountain biking to camping gear that ranged from the Spartan to the posh.

The changes in the show were well received by sportsmen and women from across Georgia and neighboring states with visitors shoulder to shoulder to enjoy vendor displays and other show features

GWF will strive to continually grow the Great Outdoors Show in a way that will highlight the excitement of the "Great Outdoors." Many thanks to our sponsors -- the Local Ford Dealers, Briar Patch Camo, Mid State RV Center, Mike's Golf Carts, Town & Country Motorsports, Motions, CVA, for their support in making the Great Outdoors Show a reality.

The Grand America Turkey Calling Contest with its new sponsor, Briar Patch Camo, hosted a field of twenty eight competitors from across the country. The crowd once again was not disappointed as they heard some of the best turkey calling possible with numerous ties and call-offs before Doug Benefield of Newnan, GA, was crowned as the 2008 champion.

The 2nd Annual GWF Call Makers Competition played host to 197 of the finest turkey, duck, deer and predator calls presented by Craftsmen from all over the U.S. in both the State and Open Contest. This prestigious event, being only one of a very few of its kind, saw some very stiff competition with Jerry White / Dewey Johnson of Hazelhurst, Ga. emerging as the champions of the State Division with a Trumpet Call and Jack Strickland of Baxley, GA, winning the Open Division with a Long Box. Plans are already being made for the 2009 Competition.

There was plenty for the kids from the FFA Archery Shoot, to the Daisy BB Shoot and fishing in the lake for Rainbow trout, catfish and bream. The GWF Boat Cast Off, in its 6th year, saw a field of 26 contestants ranging in age from 8 to 14 years old compete for a chance to win a 14 ft Alumnacraft Jon Boat donated by B&B Marine. Hope Newkirk, a 13-year-old and veteran competitor from Shady Dale, GA, cast her way to the championship for 2008.

Georgia Wildlife Federation thanks everyone who attended the show in support of the GWF conservation programs that help to preserve our Constitutional right to hunt, fish, and enjoy the Great Outdoors for generations to come. Mark your calendar now for our Buckaramas® upcoming in Atlanta, July 31- August 3, and Perry, August 15 - 17; and next year's Great Outdoors Show at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry, February 13-15, 2009. 🐾



## GWF Thanks Our Hard Working Show Volunteers

Abel Eubanks  
Dusty Rhodes  
Lyle Conrad  
Adam Schiavone  
Emily Whiting  
Mack Offenbergl  
Ash Royal  
Erin Jenkins  
Matthew Skinner  
Bob Atkinson  
Errin McGrinn  
Melissa Smith  
Bob Grubbs  
Evan Morena  
Michael Kellogg

Bob Whiting  
Frank Howland III  
Mike Riesmeyer  
Brandi Smith  
Frank Howland Jr  
Nicholas Cole  
Brenda Bradley  
Frank Lyles  
Paige Jones  
Brian Gordon  
Gary Perrine  
Paul Unger  
C. T. Lyles  
Harrell Strickland  
Paul Williamson

Calvin Cole  
Jace' Smith  
Randy Smith  
Carl Hall  
Jacklyn Kerch  
Ray Shell  
Carol Riesmeyer  
Jeff Young  
Roy Sane  
Carol Stowe  
Jim Manley  
Sandie Guy  
Casey Arnett  
Jim Wilson  
Scott Turner

Chad McWhirter  
Joey Thiel  
Shae Smith  
Chelsea Greenan  
Jordan Perrine  
Shane Lee  
Chris Lyons  
Josh Gamblin  
Shayne Rhode  
Christy Lyles  
Kathryn Skeen  
Sidney Crosby  
Colby Mathews  
Kathy Lyles  
Soloman Aboutlarb

Corey Jones  
Katie Rucker  
Sydney Crosby  
David Black  
Kim Unger  
Vicki Yates  
David Haire  
Larry Stean  
Wayne Bradley  
Debbie Young  
Larry Strait

# New Members and Renewals October - December 2007

## **Individual/Family**

Conyers-Rockdale Library  
Madison Veterinary Clinic  
Service Guild of Covington  
Mr. Sammy T. Alewine  
Mrs. Joyce Allgood  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Allman  
Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Anderson  
Mr. Henry W. Anderson  
Mr. William H. Anderson, II  
Mr. Frank L. Asbury, III  
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Austin  
Mr. Daniel E. Autry  
Mr. Bob Baldwin  
Ms. Betty Banks  
Wilson and Sarah Barmeyer  
Mr. Frank Barron, Jr.  
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Mr. Ralph W. Batten  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Bays  
Mrs. Diann Beasley  
Mr. and Mrs. George Bishop  
Mr. Jerry W. Booker  
Dr. and Mrs. James B. Bradley  
Mr. and Ms. Ben H. Brown  
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*Recycling.....continued from page 7*

including Keep Covington/Newton Beautiful; Smart Growth Newton County; the Tree Preservation Board of the City of Covington Building and Zoning Office; Newton County Trails-Path Foundation; the Newton County Land Trust; The Center; and Oxford College of Emory University.

The most readily recognized effect of this program on the community will be waste reduction. GWF will have the ability to reduce the amount of trash it sends to the landfills as a result of its routine office practices as well as its special events and programming.

Additionally, GWF will be able to demonstrate by example to all Alcovy Conservation Center visitors the ease of handling recyclable materials. Educational displays will provide information needed to set up such programs in visitor homes and offices. This will amplify the community recycling effort, and further reduction in the waste stream will result. 🍃

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MARCH 29:** Introduction to Adopt-A-Stream, Alcovy Conservation Center, 10 am

**MARCH 29-30, APRIL 5:** Habitat Steward Training, Cedar Hill Enrichment Center, Forsyth County. Contact Kat Stratton, [kat@cedarhillenrichment.org](mailto:kat@cedarhillenrichment.org) or Rosalie Jensen, [rsjensen@ngcsu.edu](mailto:rsjensen@ngcsu.edu).

**APRIL 5:** Chemical Adopt-A-Stream Workshop, Alcovy Conservation Center, 10 am

**APRIL 12:** Biological Adopt-A-Stream Workshop, Alcovy Conservation Center, 10 am

**APRIL 19:** "Let's Learn About Birds" class at Mill Creek Nature Center. Ages 7-10 years old. 9:00-11:30am. FREE. Limit 16 participants. Contact 770-868-8423 or [cmarr@gwf.org](mailto:cmarr@gwf.org) to register.

**APRIL 21-25:** Institute for Wetlands, Alcovy Conservation Center.

**MAY 3:** "Wetland Walks" at Mill Creek Nature Center. Volunteers will lead walks through wetlands giving information, leading a hands-on activity and a take-home craft. 10am & 1:30pm. Contact 770-868-8423 or [cmarr@gwf.org](mailto:cmarr@gwf.org) to register.

**MAY 10:** Adopt-A-Stream Monitoring of Cornish Creek, Alcovy Conservation Center, 10 am

**MAY 17:** "Wetland Walks" at Mill Creek Nature Center. Volunteers will lead walks through wetlands giving information, leading a hands-on activity and a take-home craft. 10am & 1:30pm. Contact 770-868-8423 or [cmarr@gwf.org](mailto:cmarr@gwf.org) to register.

**June 7:** Girl Scout Leader "Wetland Patch" Event at Mill Creek Nature Center. Girl Scout leaders can attend this event to participate in Wetland Patch activities. After, leaders can schedule to bring their troop back for a Wetland Patch program. Space is limited to 40. Call 770-868-8423 or [cmarr@gwf.org](mailto:cmarr@gwf.org) to register.

**July 12:** Wetland Monitoring Workshop at Mill Creek Nature Center. Volunteers learn about wetlands, plant identification and how to monitor wetlands. Monitoring takes place 4 times a year at MCNC. High School students - Adults. Time: TBD. Contact Christina at 770-868-8423 or [cmarr@gwf.org](mailto:cmarr@gwf.org).

*For more information on GWF Volunteer opportunities at the Alcovy Conservation Center, call 770-787-7887 or email [rphillips@gwf.org](mailto:rphillips@gwf.org).*

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