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A PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA WILDLIFE FEDERATION



## Folk Art Returns to the Great Outdoors Show

*By Sam Stowe, Camo Coalition*



Folk art will return to the 2008 Turkeyrama® (see page 2 for details about our better-than-ever show) in February in the form of eye-catching handmade game and predator calls. These calls are truly works of art, both because of the craftsmanship employed to create them, and because each call accurately duplicates the sounds of wild animals and birds. Countless hours are spent in woodshops all across the country by artisans in a labor of love as they create calls for pursuing their favorite game.

This particular type of folk art dates back to prehistoric days. Some of the modern day research digs at ancient civilization sites have produced wing bone turkey calls. These look much like our modern day calls, but without some modern day extras employed by today's call

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Many logistics go into building a 120-foot raised boardwalk. It certainly was no easy task for Mill Creek Nature Center and its unique challenges: no motor vehicles are allowed nor is there any electricity on the site. Thankfully, we had many volunteers who used a lot of muscle power hauling ALL the lumber from the staging area to the project site (approximately ½ mile). See the story on page 8.



Photo by Hank Ohme

# The Call



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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### Welcome to the



Times and the environment undergo changes. Periodically, the Georgia Wildlife Federation embarks on programs or initiatives that are appropriate for a particular time or ensure we respond to challenges to conservation. For instance, a few years ago we saw the need for a concerted voice on sportsman's issues; we built Camo Coalition to meet the need. Federal funding for wildlife habitat conservation dwindled; we assembled the Teaming With Wildlife coalition in part to make the case for preserving habitat before it's too late. It became clear about six years ago that water management would be the defining environmental issue of the early 21st century; GWF was one of a handful of conservation organizations that created the Georgia Water Coalition to raise a voice on behalf of fair water management with an eye to healthy communities based on a healthy environment.



Photo by Larry Price, courtesy of the National Wild Turkey Federation

We're also embarking on another change that's appropriate for the time. Recently, the Georgia Wildlife Federation announced that the Atlanta and Perry Fisharama®/Turkeyrama® are now combined into one super show. We're calling it the Great Outdoors Show. It will be held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry, Georgia, on February 8, 9 and 10, 2008.

*continued on page 3*

# Georgia Hunters Achieve Milestone of Compassion

By Glenn Dowling, Executive Vice President



Georgia hunters believe in the tradition of hunting and see their harvest as a benefit. They share venison with family and friends and help quality management of Georgia's extensive deer population.

Some of these hunters participate in the Georgia Hunters for the Hungry (GHFTH) program by donating deer for processing and distribution to hungry Georgians through a statewide network of food banks.

By the end of the 2007-2008 deer hunting season, the GHFTH program will have provided over 1,000,000 meals to hungry Georgians. The millionth meal was served just before Christmas 2007. Over 200,000 pounds of this top protein source have been donated since the program began in 1993.

The Georgia Hunters for the Hungry program offers an important link: sportsmen and women ease hunger in our state while reducing the negative effects of whitetail deer populations on wildlife habitat. It's an important means of assisting the Wildlife Resources Division and the State Parks Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to ease habitat degradation and ensure continued herd health at various state parks.

The success of this vital program results from the generosity of hunters to Georgians in need of a hot meal. Check out [www.gohuntgeorgia.com](http://www.gohuntgeorgia.com) for more details and participating processors. 🍖

*Great Outdoors Show.....continued from page 2*

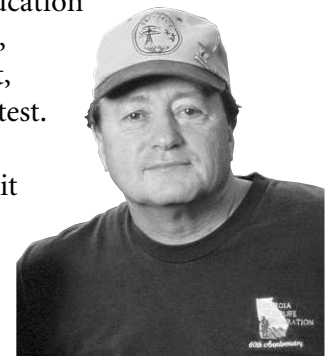
There will be building after building of fishing — Fishin's Back! — turkey hunting and outdoor gear vendors showcasing and selling their wares, giving hunters, anglers and outdoor recreationists a great opportunity to outfit themselves for the upcoming season. For the first time, we'll include camping, hiking, kayaking, and cycling gear.

The Georgia National Fairgrounds, with plenty of free parking, not only will offer expanded space to grow some of the already popular events, but affords space for new and exciting events for the whole family. Among them: free fishing at the south lake for kids 15 and under. Prochoicetackle.com and Shakespeare Fishing Tackle are partnering with GWF to make this both educational and fun for the kids with the opportunity to fish — perhaps for the first time — for prizes, under true angling conditions. We want to make sure the next generation has a chance to experience the fishing heritage we enjoy.

The Wildlife Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, will host the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Georgia Fun Shoot on Saturday, February 9th. It is the culminating statewide event for students who participate in NASP in their physical education classes. Winners advance to the National Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky, in April, 2008. Also, back again for the 12th year is the Grand America Turkey Calling Contest, with a new sponsor, Briar Patch Camo, and the Second Annual GWF Call Makers Contest. These new features are just the start of good things to come.

This show — GWF's second largest fund raiser — is vital to our mission since it funds a variety of programs that are critical to sportsmen and conservationists in preserving our heritage and great natural resources. Funded programs include the *Camo Coalition* — alerting sportsmen about issues that affect wildlife management and outdoor recreation — and *Teaming with Wildlife* — promoting the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), designed to identify and protect wildlife and their habitat.

I hope your holidays were hearty and we'll see you at the Great Outdoors Show in Perry, February 8-10, 2008. 🐾



Jerry L. McCollum  
President and CEO

# Statewide Water Plan Heading for the General Assembly

By Sarah Gaines Barmeyer, Water Issues Coordinator

Georgia is a geographically diverse state blessed with many special places. Each of these places has different water needs, and no place in Georgia is singularly "special" in regard to water needs and uses. All Georgians ultimately drink from the same waters; we must plan the use of our waters together.

The Georgia Wildlife Federation, through its involvement with the Georgia Water Coalition, has been intimately involved in the development of Georgia's first Statewide Water Management Plan. We support the idea of a fair Statewide Water Management Plan based on river basins and local representation.

The draft Plan misses other key marks in several important ways:

**First, the Plan has no guaranteed funding.** We must have committed state funding to put the plan into action to ensure that Georgia's waters are monitored and assessed, clean water laws are enforced, and regional planning is implemented. Funding depends on appropriations from the General Assembly. Environmental Protection Director Carol Couch estimates that a true statewide water plan will cost more than \$36 million over the next three years. So far, the General Assembly has appropriated \$800,000, only 3% of this total. Only funding that is stable and available will make the proposals in the water plan a reality — otherwise, it will be nothing more than paper.

**Second, the Plan does not, but must, clearly mandate that the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District's (District) water plans conform to the State Plan.** The District created its own water plans several years ago, calling for new interbasin transfers, reservoirs, and other water management activities to feed continued, rapid metro Atlanta growth, thus compromising downstream communities' economic vitality and ecological wellbeing. The District's plans are updated every five years and the five-year update is due in 2008, before the statewide water

management plan is implemented. Whatever is in place in the 2008 plan is not going to change until 2013, unless the Metro District, on its own initiative, decides to make such a change. As a result, the Metro District will be planning according to a different, less stringent set of rules than the rest of the state and may make decisions about water use that will deprive downstream communities of water long into the future. The final plan must ensure that the District conforms to the state Plan. Georgia needs a water plan that unites the state, not one that divides us.

**Third, the Plan does not, but should, propose specific efficiency and conservation requirements for all water users** so efficient water use is required everywhere, always - not just during times of drought. Water conservation, efficiency, and reuse options are by far the cheapest solutions for increasing water supply and should be implemented to their fullest extent before reservoirs and interbasin transfers are utilized.

**Fourth, the Plan does not, but should, set a specific instream flow policy, or a process to develop such a standard,** to ensure that there will always be enough water in our rivers, lakes, streams and estuaries to protect downstream communities, fish, wildlife, and recreation. GWF's membership is comprised of many anglers. We know that fish populations require sufficient amounts of water in our rivers and streams to thrive and that low flows may have negative consequences and might cause fish kills. The final plan must include an instream flow policy that is science-based and protects the needs of every waterway.

**Finally, the Plan does, but should not, include risky, expensive and unproven management schemes** such as aquifer storage and recovery, desalination, and pollution trading. These unproven, potentially very expensive, and damaging proposals benefit selected areas or interests only and do not belong in a statewide water plan.

Georgia could have a Water Plan that ensures enough clean drinking water and healthy, flowing rivers for future generations. Please voice your concerns to your state leaders before they vote on the final Water Plan in the 2008 Legislative session. Please visit [www.georgiawater.org](http://www.georgiawater.org) throughout the General Assembly session for updates and sign up for the Georgia Environmental Action Network (GEAN) at [www.protectgeorgia.net](http://www.protectgeorgia.net) to receive important action alerts. 🐟



Photo by Hank Ohme

# Rivers Alive 2007: Newton County

By Robert Phillips, *Alcovy Conservation Center Volunteer Coordinator*

As in the story of Goldilocks and the three bears, it wasn't too hot, it wasn't too cold, it was just right. Because it was just right and because they have a concern for the water in Newton County, citizens showed up in large numbers for the Newton County Rivers Alive Cleanup.

Over one hundred fifty participants met at the Covington square at 8 am Saturday, October 13. After feasting on biscuits, coffee and juice, volunteers were dispatched to thirteen sites around the county. The group gathered 226 large garbage bags of trash along intersections of county roads and our streams. And this total doesn't include larger items such as couches, rolls of carpet and other items just too big to squeeze into a plastic bag.

I am certain the citizens of Newton County and those who live downstream from Newton appreciate the fantastic job done by all our volunteers. We extend a big thank you to the city of Covington for sponsoring the breakfast, and to the Newton Sewage and Water Authority for sponsoring the lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers and smoked chicken. Most of all, a shout out of gratitude should also go to the school groups in Newton County. WOW, what a show of support. The Keep Newton/Covington Beautiful did its usual great job and thanks to the Georgia Wildlife Federation volunteers at the Alcovy Conservation Center for helping with the trash pick up and hosting the lunch. Please do your part, recycle what you can and trash-can the rest. Let's keep Newton Beautiful! 🐾



**Georgia Perimeter College group picks up trash along the Alcovy River.**

## Farm Bill Moving Through Congress

By Shirl Parsons, *Conservation Issues Coordinator*

The Farm Bill has been in the news a lot lately since this complicated bill moved through the House last summer and was passed out of the Senate in late December. Reauthorization of the Farm Bill will be the most important piece of conservation legislation this year and will affect thousands of acres of grasslands, forests and other habitats.

Farmland covers nearly 30 percent of Georgia, while another 45 percent is privately owned forest land. Any effort to ensure the future of Georgia's fish and wildlife must involve these private landowners as partners. The Farm Bill authorizes some of our nation's largest and most successful voluntary conservation programs and increasingly, the work of farmers, ranchers and private forest owners will be valued not just for commodities, but for clean water and air, healthy soil, and improved wildlife habitat. Conservation programs like the Wetlands Reserve Program, Grasslands Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Wildlife Habitats Incentive Program and Conservation Security Program have done much to address soil, water and wildlife concerns on our farm and forests. Yet these programs are insufficiently funded and have generated long lists of potential participants waiting to enroll.

As the Farm Bill passed through the Senate in December all the amendments that would have weakened conservation provisions were either voted down or withdrawn and several amendments to strengthen conservation provisions were added. The next step is for Senate and House negotiators to work out differences between the Senate bill and the House version passed last summer. We will report the outcome in the next issue of The Call. 🐾

# Losing the Graceful Giants

By Jennifer Ceska, Plant Conservation Coordinator, State Botanical Garden of Georgia

In the Fall 2007 issue of the *Call* we reported ("Battling the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid") that the Georgia Wildlife Federation presented Dr. Wayne Berisford, Research Professor in the University of Georgia's Department of Entomology, with a check for \$10,000 to help fight the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). The check — for a predatory beetle production lab and development of control methods — was funded in part by donations from many GWF members and conservation-minded individuals; it's a vital part of GWF's work, called *Teaming with Wildlife*, to support the State Wildlife Action Plan, a strategy for preserving habitat and the species that may disappear if we don't take action to protect them.

From Jennifer Ceska, Plant Conservation Coordinator of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia and active member of the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance — a *Teaming with Wildlife* Partner — comes insight into the crisis created by the pest known as HWA. This chilling account of an early encounter and the implications for an iconic native tree, is excerpted from her 2003 article "Loss of the Graceful Giants," *Garden News*, State Botanical Garden of Georgia. - Carol Hassell, Editor of the *Call*

In summer 2002, my husband, son, and I hiked Cascades Gorge in Homestead, Virginia with Brian LaFountain, a gifted and enthusiastic naturalist. The hike climbed a series of thirteen waterfalls surrounded by rich temperate forest. The tree canopy was lush, and the forest floor was carpeted with thick layers of wildflowers and ferns. But early in the trek, we couldn't help but notice a huge, dead, bright red Hemlock tree next to the stream, covering the ground with its unnaturally exfoliating bark. We saw another and another and realized that all the Hemlocks were dead or dying. The bright red trunks and bare branches made the trees look as if they were mortally wounded. Brian explained the story of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) and its attack on the hemlocks of the East. We listened and nodded sympathetically, feeling badly for these trees of Virginia, and relieved that it took us two days drive to get here from Georgia. The problem was a terrible one, but far from home. At least that is what I thought.

During a phone conversation with Tom Patrick (Botanist, GA-DNR Natural Heritage Program) he suggested the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance add another project, safeguarding Carolina Hemlock. I assumed that he meant we would collect seeds and grow trees at the various participating botanical gardens because there is only one natural population of *Tsuga caroliniana* left in Georgia, and it is wise to protect the last of any species within our state. Tom explained that the more pressing reason to take this project on is that the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid was now in Georgia. I was shocked. Was Tom genuinely concerned that we'd lose this population and our other more common Eastern Hemlock trees to the HWA? There was sincere sadness in Tom's voice when he answered my question. "It's not good, Jennifer."

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges tsuga*) is a non-native aphid-like pest insect from Asia. In its native land, it feeds on hemlock species without killing or impairing the trees. In the Eastern United States, it is taking a terrible toll. HWA is believed to be accidentally introduced to America, first in the 1920s to the Pacific Northwest where it does not kill western hemlock species and then in the 1950s near Richmond, Virginia. It has steadily radiated throughout the east coast to eleven (now twelve) states, from North Carolina to New England.

HWA is only about the size of a period on this page and it cannot fly. Birds, deer, squirrels, hikers, and



Mixed forest with upper slopes of hardwoods and Eastern White Pine and grey-green Carolina Hemlock on the inner gorge. Photo by C.J. Earle

nurserymen transport it from one tree to the next. Horticulturists recommend you not put animal feeders next to natural or planted hemlock trees; foresters recommend you carefully wash your clothes, equipment, and vehicles after visiting an infested stand to reduce your chances of spreading these pesty crawlers; and politicians in the north recommend quarantines on hemlock products (chips, logs, potted plants) distributed from states with known infestations. You can spot an infestation by flipping the branches over and looking for white woolly egg sac tufts at the base of the needles. This wool is present at all life stages of the HWA. Spraying trees with water to mechanically knock the pests off can control early infestations. More established infestations must be sprayed



**Hemlock Woolly Adelgid is clearly visible on the underside of a branch.**  
Photo courtesy of University of Georgia.

annually with horticultural oil or insecticidal soap after the HWA eggs have hatched. Trees must be saturated, covering all facets of each layered branch. Chemical controls are available, but they require application by certified arborists. Insecticides such as the Imidacloprid, "Merit," can be applied systemically through injection or soil drenching. You can see how difficult these measures would be to apply to wild populations. Aerial spraying is not possible, as all needle surfaces cannot be covered.

Natural population monitoring has shown that it takes about ten years for hemlock trees to die. They often remain standing for another six to eight years following mortality. Small hemlocks show greater mortality than large, but all trees infested with HWA eventually die. Changes in the plant community are great as more light reaches the forest floor, potentially changing soil chemistry and hydrology. Invasive plant species often take advantage of these light windows. The composition of the forest canopy is dramatically changed. It is likely that we will have to recall natural stands of Eastern and Carolina Hemlock by photograph as we must do with the American Chestnut, unless some sort of biological control can be successfully applied.

Considerable research has focused on a newly named species of Japanese Ladybug (*Pseudoscymnus tsugae*), which can seek out and eat HWA. USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service approved its release as a biological control agent. In the wild it is found to only attack HWA, but in the laboratory, this species of Japanese Ladybug also attacks other adelgid species like the Balsam Woolly Adelgid, Cooley Spruce Gall Adelgid, and Pine Bark Adelgid. Researchers are now trying to mass-produce Japanese Ladybugs for commercial application.

Meanwhile, the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance will place seed collecting bags over cones of our single Carolina Hemlock population to catch the seed-shattering season. The State Botanical Garden, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Gardens at Callaway, and the UGA Coastal Plain Research Arboretum will raise the young trees from seed, safeguarding them in our greenhouses and gardens. And we'll hold high hopes that a small Japanese Ladybug will have a voracious and discriminating appetite for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid aphids. 🐞

Folk Art.....continued from page 1

makers. Both prehistoric calls and modern calls use either two or all three joints of a wild turkey wing to produce most any vocal sound of the wild turkey. Prehistoric man relied on his call-making ability for a part of his table fare, while today's call makers have truly turned call making into an art form.

All the various types of calls from duck calls, turkey calls and predator calls to grunt calls will be entered in this year's Call Makers Contest. Each call will be individually judged and scored while on display for public viewing at the 2008 Turkeyrama in Perry on February 8 through 10. Don't miss the show. 🐞

## Mill Creek Nature Center Receives Community Grant From REI

By Christina Marr, Volunteer & Program Coordinator - MCNC

Consider the logistics that go into building a 120 foot raised boardwalk: How long will the project take to complete? How many volunteers will the project need? How much lumber, what tools and most importantly how much will the project cost?

Well, thanks to REI (Recreational Equipment, Inc.) and some local businesses, a community grant covered the all-important cost factor, allowing us to begin planning for this long-awaited replacement for a washed out area of path. Soon after receiving the grant, all the other elements fell into place and on Saturday, September 22nd, 27 volunteers and 392 pieces of lumber arrived to start building the raised boardwalk.

Undertaking this kind of project is massive for any organization. It certainly was no easy task for our center and its unique challenges: no motor vehicles are allowed nor is there any electricity on the site. Fortunately, we had many volunteers who used a lot of muscle power hauling ALL the lumber from the staging area to the project site (approximately ½ mile in distance that included an elevated bridge). Some of the volunteers, such as boy scouts from Troop 608, made the job fun by singing songs and making jokes. Other volunteers, like BSA Venture Crew (a co-ed high school adventure group) were simply happy to help in any way they could. Volunteers were given lunch on each work day and REI even graciously donated some items for a raffle. As a thank you for all the hard, manual labor that the volunteers were being asked to do for this project, REI also donated 60 Nalgene Loop-top water bottles.

GWF volunteers, Chris Gray and Paul O'Shield, took the lead for designing and starting the construction of the boardwalk. New volunteer, David Nash, took over on work days when Chris and Paul could not be present. The work continued on September 29th, October 20th and October 27th with most of the boardwalk completed at this writing. A few more areas need to be finished, but the project is a complete success! To this date, a total of 74 volunteers have worked hard to bring this boardwalk to life; the result is a safer trail that is accessible even when the ground below is saturated following rains and flooding.

In addition to REI's support, this project would not have been possible without the generous support of local businesses as well. Thank you to Hill's ACE Hardware of Winder and The Home Depot of Dacula for donations of lumber. Costco and Subway (Mall of Georgia) helped provide lunch for the volunteers on each work day. Hands On Atlanta assisted with advertising our project build, resulting in eight willing volunteers who gave their time. We owe a BIG thank you to the great folks at Birdwatcher Supply Company who are always ready to lend a hand (or an electrical outlet when we needed to charge our cordless tools) in whatever way they can help! We're grateful to REI for nominating GWF's Mill Creek Nature Center for a community grant and we always appreciate the assistance they provide by advertising our events and in their unending partnership! 🐾



Christina Marr, Volunteer & Program Coordinator (left), accepts a donation from Daniel Jessee, REI Outreach Specialist. REI's partnership and grant provided essential project support while volunteers did some heavy lifting. Thanks go to REI and all who participated.



# Online Training Helps Volunteers Fight Invasive Species

In collaboration with the Center for Invasive Plant Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuge System has designed an online training course for volunteers interested in fighting one of the single greatest threats to the Refuge System—invasive species.

The Refuge System has worked aggressively to combat invasive species, targeting more than 280,000 acres of refuge lands. Yet an estimated 1.72 million acres remain untreated.

The new invasive species Web site ([www.fws.gov/invasives/volunteersTrainingModule](http://www.fws.gov/invasives/volunteersTrainingModule)) includes video, text and photos that provide background on the Refuge System and information about the science and management of invasive plants. The site also includes an invasive species knowledge test and links to government and private Web sites dealing with the issue.

In 2003, the Refuge System joined conservation organizations and the U.S. Geological Survey in training volunteers to use hand-held GPS devices to map invasive species on national wildlife refuges.

"We want volunteers to be able to engage their communities on the issue of invasives," said Jenny Ericson, national invasives volunteer coordinator for the Refuge System. "The online training provides practical tools for educating local groups about the importance of preventing and controlling invasive plants. Volunteers can be our greatest advocates in the fight against this major nationwide threat to wildlife and habitat."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing



Photo by Chris Evans, The University of Georgia

**Cogongrass, a particularly noxious invasive, has recently been documented in western Georgia.**

fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 97-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 548 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies. 🐾

## JOIN GWF

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I would like to join at the following level:

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Silver Steward (\$100+)

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Method of Payment: Check Visa MC Dis AMEX

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### ***Gifts were received in memory of the following:***

**In Memory of Ken "Camo" Thompson**  
 Linda Budd  
 Reynolds Realty, LLC.  
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### ***We gratefully acknowledge those below whose gifts help GWF fulfill our mission.***

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We have taken great care to present an accurate and complete listing of our outstanding supporters. If an omission or other error has occurred, we express our sincere regret and ask that it be brought to our attention.

## **Cecil Allgood, Sr.**

GWF was saddened to hear of the loss of long-time member, volunteer and friend, Cecil Thomas Allgood, Sr. Cecil passed away on Sunday, October 14, 2007, and is survived by his wife of 29 years, Joyce Byrd Allgood of Conyers, two children, two step-children, and their families.

Cecil loved nature. This was apparent by his choice of hobbies: gardening, fishing, and camping. GWF knew him best through his woodworking. Cecil never turned us down if we were in need of a new bench, bird feeder, or nesting box for a program or habitat garden. But, the best part was that he always did it with a smile, and it was obvious that he found great joy in helping others. GWF has been blessed by being a recipient of his talents and generous spirit. We will miss him. 🐦



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 8-10:** The Great Outdoors Show, featuring the Fisharama®/Turkeyrama.® See pg 2.

**FEBRUARY 9:** Mill Creek Nature Center Volunteer Training. Individuals interested in leading programs for scout groups and the public can attend this training to prepare for upcoming spring and summer programs. 9am-1pm. Location: TBD. RSVP to Christina Marr (770-868-8423 or cmarr@gwf.org) by Feb. 1st.

**FEBRUARY 16:** Great Backyard Bird Count at Mill Creek Nature Center. All ages welcome. 7am-11am. No advance registration required but you must sign in at the center before starting your count. Contact Christina Marr (770-868-8423 or cmarr@gwf.org) with any questions.

**FEBRUARY 23:** Adopt-A-Stream Monitoring of Cornish Creek, Alcovy Conservation Center, 12 noon

**MARCH 15:** Trail Work Day at Mill Creek Nature

Center. 9am-12pm. Pre-register by March 1st. Contact Christina Marr (770-868-8423 or cmarr@gwf.org).

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

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

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

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

## State Wildlife E-newsletter

Whether the subject is wood storks or bog turtles, right whales or sandhills, the Wildlife Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources is starting an e-mail newsletter that will cover the state's wide range of non-game creatures and natural habitats.

Signing up is easy and free. Simply contact Rick Lavender at Wildlife Resources Public Affairs (rick.lavender@gadnr.org or 770-918-6787) to add your e-mail address.

The first issue of the bi-monthly newsletter will arrive shortly after Jan. 1. Each issue will dig into news, features and profiles involving non-game wildlife, topics and places.

It's a quick way to stay up-to-date on Wildlife Resources' work with everything from American oystercatchers to zigzag salamanders. 🐸



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