



The mission of South River Watershed Alliance is to protect and restore the water quality and biodiversity of the South River watershed to the beneficial use of people and wildlife.

July 2015

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Gwyneth Moody, Georgia River Network
Hidden Gems Paddle 2012

Celebrating 5 years, one river, and you

This month marks five years since restoration of the South River began. Today, more people than ever are excited about the river and taking its future in their hands. Sustained community interest, involvement, and action is essential to the river's revival. Give yourself a wet pat on the back and celebrate your work in support of this amazing river.



Some paddle



Some volunteer



Some volunteer



Some advocate

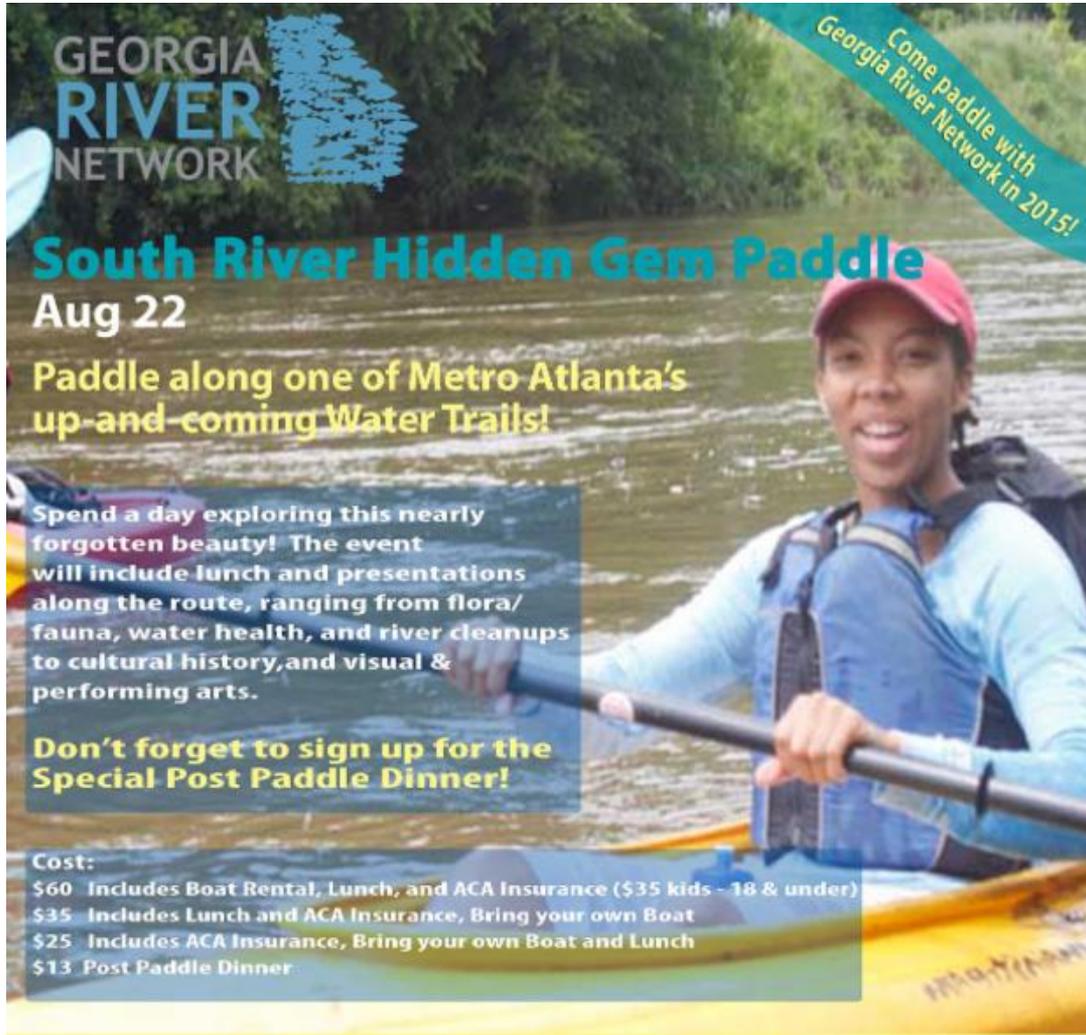


The Future of the South River is in your Hands.

Thank You for all that you do for the Good of the South River.

Celebrate Your Success!!

South River Hidden Gems Paddle



GEORGIA RIVER NETWORK

South River Hidden Gem Paddle
Aug 22

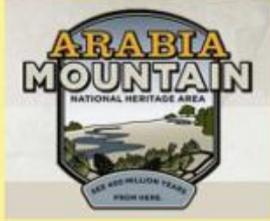
Paddle along one of Metro Atlanta's up-and-coming Water Trails!

Spend a day exploring this nearly forgotten beauty! The event will include lunch and presentations along the route, ranging from flora/fauna, water health, and river cleanups to cultural history, and visual & performing arts.

Don't forget to sign up for the Special Post Paddle Dinner!

Cost:
\$60 Includes Boat Rental, Lunch, and ACA Insurance (\$35 kids - 18 & under)
\$35 Includes Lunch and ACA Insurance, Bring your own Boat
\$25 Includes ACA Insurance, Bring your own Boat and Lunch
\$13 Post Paddle Dinner

Event partners include:



Register at <http://south-river.eventbrite.com>

The August 22 event will feature the Georgia River Network's Hidden Gems paddle. It is part of the Hidden Gems Paddle Series sponsored by South River Watershed Alliance and Georgia River Network. This event will attract river enthusiasts from across the state and serve as the inaugural launch of the South River Watershed Alliance's campaign to designate the South River Water Trail. The day will include a picnic lunch and presentations along the route, ranging from natural history and water-quality testing to river clean-up

training. Seats are limited and available on a first come first serve basis. Click here to sign up <http://south-river.eventbrite.com>.

A first paddle to remember



Paddlers receive basic canoe paddling instructions from guide Bruce Williams. On June 13, fourteen beginner paddlers experienced the joys of paddling and the beauty of the South River for the first time.

The paddle began at Lorraine Park and Trailhead and ended at Oglesby Bridge Road in Rockdale County.

See Upcoming Events section for information about future paddles.

Nature notes

by Phil Delestrez

The beautiful Question Mark Butterfly is named for a little "Question Mark" shaped pattern on its outside hind wing. When the wings are folded up, they appear as a dried up leaf. But when this butterfly spreads its wings, you are treated to a vibrant orange and black pattern.

The illustration shown here is from the base of Panola Mountain. The lichen and moss covered rock of Panola come right up to the South River, and only a narrow span of bottomland forest and canebrakes separate flood plane from the arid and dry granite rock. In that forest, however, grow nettles, elms, and Hackberries, all host plants for the Question Mark Butterfly.



Question Mark Butterfly
Illustration: Phil Delestrez

See more beautiful illustrations at <https://www.etsy.com/shop/DelestrezArts>
www.ArtPal.com/Delestrezart; <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Delestrezart>

Upcoming Events

Paddle the Alcovy River with SRWA and the Jackson Lake Homeowners Association, Saturday, July 11, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Must provide and transport

own kayak. There is no cost for this event. If interested, contact Jackie 404-285-3756.

South River Paddle, Panola Shoals to Klondike Road (DeKalb County), Saturday, July 25, 9:00 - 3:00 p.m. Cost: \$40/per person (includes lunch). Seats are limited. Questions, contact Jackie 404-285-3756. Kayakers are welcome; call for more information. [Click here](#) to reserve here.

South River Hidden Gems Paddle, Lorraine Park & Trailhead to Oglesby Bridge Road (Rockdale County), Saturday, August 22, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. This is a SRWA and Georgia River Network partnership event. See article below for more details. Register at <http://south-river.eventbrite.com>.

For information about beginner paddler scholarships for July 25 and August 22 paddles call Jackie, 404-285-3756. These Arabia Mountain Park Adventures are made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Coca-Cola and Subaru.

Save the Date - South River Jamboree, "Celebrating 5 Years, One River, and You", September 26, Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Center, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Center

Roaming with Ranger Robby, July 10, 8:00 a.m - 10:30 a.m. Never the same hike twice! See where the spring breezes take you and discover new favorite areas throughout the Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve. These guided hikes are moderately difficult and we often stop to take in our surroundings. Take time for yourself and get away from it all in this peaceful natural setting. Please wear closed toe shoes and bring plenty of water. Free

Arabia Mountain Backstage Tour, July 19, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Explore the quiet places and hidden gems that make Arabia Mountain an ecological treasure. Along the way Ranger Robby will share his knowledge of the plants and wildlife that call the Preserve home. This hike is often adjusted to fit the needs and interests of the hikers and the changing seasons. Please wear closed toe shoes and bring plenty of water. Fee.

[Find out more](#)

New logo for South River Water Trail



The South River Water Trail (SRWT) has its own logo. The graphic symbolizes the SRWT as not only a destination for canoeists and kayakers, but a special place for birders, hikers, campers, picnickers, history buffs - almost anyone who enjoys nature and the outdoors.

When completed, the water trail will span 58.3 miles from near Constitution Lakes at Moreland Avenue (DeKalb County) to Jackson Lake in southeast Georgia.

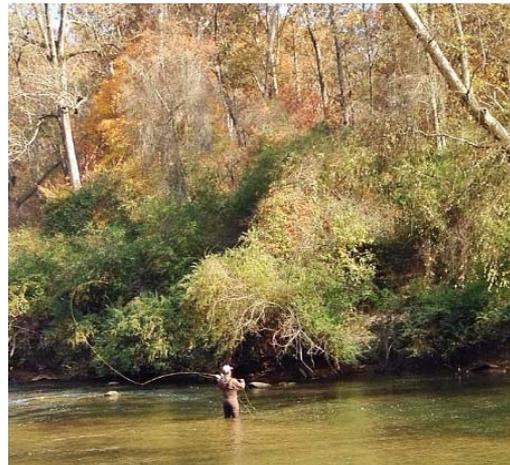
SRWT is a partnership of SRWA, Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance, and DeKalb, Rockdale, Newton, and Henry

Counties. Technical assistance is provided by Georgia River Network and National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program.

Give to South River Rainy Day Fund

This photo speaks volumes about how far the South River has come, but it is still in danger and needs our help and financial support.

For the South River, rainy days are particularly awful. When it rains human poop pours into South River from the Custer Avenue combined sewer overflow facility. This situation will get even worse if the GA EPD removes BOD and TSS performance standards from Atlanta's 2015 clean water (NPDES) permit.



George Moll fly-fishing on South River in Rockdale County

Don't bet public health and the river's future on GA EPD doing the right thing. Without your generosity a decade of progress will be lost. Please donate \$25, \$50, \$100 or more or whatever you can afford today via Paypal at www.southriverga.org or mail your check to: SRWA, PO Box 1341, Decatur, GA 30031.

The South River is there for us, let's be there for the South River.

Donate to South River Watershed Alliance via Paypal [Click here](#)