



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.

## **June 2013 In This Issue**

Hooked on the South River

Upcoming Events

The South River Matters  
"Talk It Up"

Rockdale County South River  
Canoe Outing

Wet & Scenic South River  
Tire Round Up

South River Jamboree



South River

**Hooked on the South River**



May 2013 Paddlers

On Saturday, May 18th, twenty-two people participated in SRWA's first South River outing of 2013. Eighteen made the Panola Shoals (Highway 155) to Klondike Road trip for the very first time and were inspired by what they saw. "I'm hooked" was the response from Sabrina, a first timer.

For those birders out there, click [here](#) to browse the list of 41 species that Georgia Department of Natural Resources naturalist Phil Delestrez identified during the six mile paddle trip.

The next outing is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th and will explore a section of the river that flows through Rockdale County. Read on for more Information on how to register.

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## Upcoming Events

### **Saturday, July 13, 9:00AM - [Beyond the Bridge Canoe Outing](#) Explore South River in Rockdale County**

Register now to explore a section of the river that flows through Rockdale County. We will paddle from the Highway 138 bridge to Oglesby Road.

### **Saturday, July 20, 9:00AM - Wet & Scenic South River Tire Round Up**

Join SRWA members and volunteers as we remove spent tires from the river.

Removal of spent tires that have been dumped and/or washed into the river is a

simple and effective way to help restore the river. More details below. Plan to come out and help!

### **South River Jamboree - October 5, 2013**

Mark your calendars! South River Watershed Alliance's first annual South River Jamboree will happen on October 5th. More details below.

### **Upcoming Events at Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve:**

Sunday, June 9, 11:00AM - 1:30PM, [Wildlife AWARE Picnic](#)

Hike and learn about the many local wildlife species around Arabia Mountain and picnic at the AWARE wildlife rehabilitation center.

Friday, June 21, 8:00AM - 11:00AM - [Solstice Bike & Hike](#)

Explore the preserve by bike or foot. If needed, bikes will be provided. RSVP is required.

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## **South River Matters "Talk It Up"**

South River plays a vital role in the ecology and social fabric of communities along its route.

Listed below are just a few reasons why South River matters. Read on and if you agree, spread the word, advocate, and take action to protect the river.

South River contributes to or provides:

- a healthier environment in which to live, relax, and work
- an attractive and enjoyable destination for tourists and families
- recreational opportunities such as canoeing, kayaking, bird watching and fishing
- natural processes for assimilating wastewater and runoff
- reduced need for pesticides by supporting insect-eating birds
- healthy river bank vegetation which stabilizes banks and slows erosion
- fresh water, food, and habitat for fish and wildlife
- a diversity of habitats supporting a variety of plants and animals
- floodplain vegetation as food for native and domestic animals



The river has significant economic potential, especially along the south DeKalb County to Jackson Lake corridor. For example, SRWA's South River Water Trail

initiative will support a variety of recreational activity including canoeing, kayaking, fishing, hiking, and streamside camping and picnicking capable of spurring important economic development opportunities.

For these reasons and more, **South River Matters.**

South River supporters, upstream and downstream, remember to **Talk Up South River** to your elected officials and representatives, businesses, government officials, friends and neighbors. . . **Talk It Up!**

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### **Explore South River in Rockdale County**

SRWA's second *Beyond the Bridge* South River canoe/kayak outing in 2013 is scheduled for Saturday, July 13 and will explore a section of the river that flows through Rockdale County. We will paddle from the Highway 138 bridge to Oglesby Road, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles, putting in at 9:00AM and taking out approximately four hours later. This will be the first paddle trip on this section of the South River.

Canoeing experience is not required to participate but participants should be physically able to paddle for an extended period without tiring. The cost of the event is \$30 which includes canoe rental, insurance, and lunch. Payments are securely processed on the [website](#). Canoe space is limited to the first 14 participants. Contact Jackie Echols



### **Wet & Scenic South River Tire Round Up**

If you don't mind getting your feet a little wet, like the outdoors, and want to experience a sense of accomplishment that comes from doing something that really matters, then make plans to join SRWA members and other volunteers for the **Wet & Scenic South River Tire Round Up on Saturday, July 20 at 9:00AM.**

We plan to remove spent tires from the river from a section of the South River channel from below Panola Shoals to the PATH bridge river crossing. Anyone with a johnboat who wants to help make this event a success should contact Jackie Echols (404) 285-3756. Volunteers are asked to confirm plans to participate by sending an email to [southriverwatershedalliance@gmail.com](mailto:southriverwatershedalliance@gmail.com).

Removal of spent tires that have been dumped and/or washed into the river is a simple and effective way to help restore the South River. Plan to come out and help.

(404) 285-3756 if you have questions. Kayakers are welcome and should also contact Jackie Echols for additional information.

## South River Jamboree Fundraiser

South River Jamboree, SRWA's yearly fundraiser will take place at the historic Lithonia Woman's Club, October 5, 7:00PM to 10:00PM. **SRWA needs the community to support this event.**



Information about sponsorship opportunities is posted on the website's [Events page](#). Businesses and individuals can contribute or purchase tickets online. Individual tickets are \$30.

Join SRWA's President and Board of Directors for a spirited evening in celebration of South River and enjoy good food, music, wine, and a silent auction. The Lithonia Woman's Club is located at 2564 Wiggins Street in downtown Lithonia, Georgia.