

A green leaf with a jagged edge, featuring a green caterpillar with small brown spots and three small brown eggs on the right side. The text "Rivers Alive" is written in a large, bold, black font across the center of the leaf.

# Rivers Alive

2012 annual report

[RiversAlive.org](http://RiversAlive.org)

A green leaf with a hole and a dark stain, set against a black background. The leaf is oriented horizontally, with the stem pointing to the right. The hole is located near the bottom center, and the dark stain is just below it. The text is printed on the leaf's surface.

## Looking at 2013 . . .

### **Making the Watershed Connection to Coastal Waters**

We all live downstream to someone, that is, unless you live on the coast. And when folks on the coast say the buck stops here, they really mean it. Trash on the land that enters our waterways ultimately makes its way to the coast, unless this trash is intercepted and removed in route.

But, trash that enters our coastal waters doesn't stay on the coast. For example, one year later, the United States has begun to experience first hand the effects of the tsunami in Japan, as trash and debris from this catastrophic event is making landfall right here in America. And, we've all heard about the massive floating islands of trash in the middle of the oceans.

In 2013, Rivers Alive will focus on our mission of preserving our water resources on making the connection to our coastal waters. As we think about our role in minimizing impacts on our watersheds, it's important to remember every little bit helps; working together we reduce the trash in our watersheds and ultimately, the oceans.

## **Our Mission**

to create awareness of and involvement in the protection of Georgia's water resources through waterway cleanups.

**RiversAlive.org**

4220 International Pkwy, Suite 101, Atlanta, GA 30354, 404-675-6240



**Georgia's  
Waterway Cleanups**

## In 2012



Rockdale 4H

148 appliances

148 appliances

2053 tires

615 paper bags

1176 feet of fishing line

511 balloons

177 diapers

8967 glass bottles

125 light bulbs

35 crates

19,866 cigarettes

7359 wrappers

11,661 plastic bags

30 drums



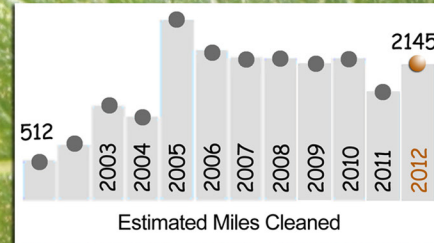
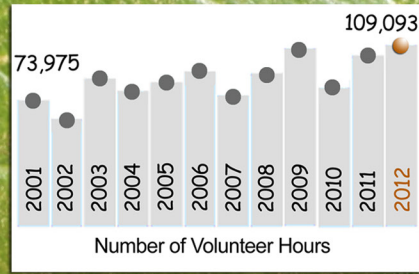
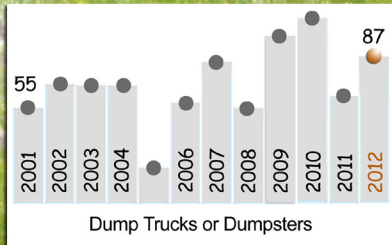
**from the Rivers Alive Chair**

Rivers Alive had another successful year in 2012 through the support of its volunteers, organizers and sponsors and grateful appreciation goes out to all of you from the staff and the board of Rivers Alive. It's so encouraging to see that every year we have new folks that discover this great network of volunteers and join us in cleaning up our favorite and sometimes needy waterways. In a world where making a difference is hard to measure, Rivers Alive gives us all that chance...your numbers are impressive!

Thank you for your continued hard work.



## In 2012 . . .



# RA Committees

## EDUCATION

The theme for 2012 was "Growing a Tradition of Clean Waterways", encouraging generations of families to work together for our water.

For volunteers we made available:

- Adopt-A-Stream Stream Habitat Survey poster with information on conducting a visual assessment of your stream health
- RA Education posters with an activity on the back
- RA bookmarks featuring River of Words art and poetry from Georgia students
- RiversAlive.org offered a Cleanup Guide and other resources, like mentor lists, activities, and waiver forms

## MARKETING

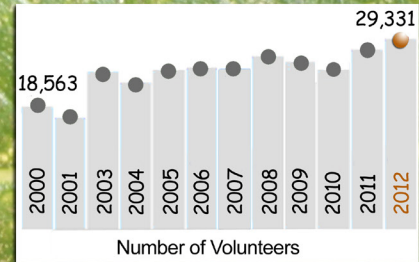
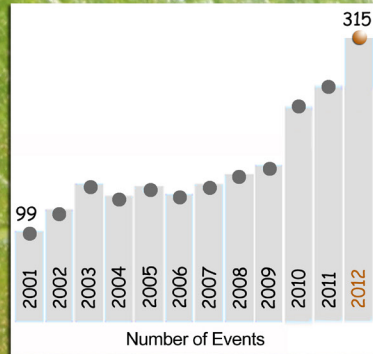
Produced a quarterly e-newsletter to keep cleanup organizers and sponsors up-to-date on news and activities. More than 100 articles about RA appeared in newspapers and periodicals throughout Georgia. Created a how-to guide for organizing paddle cleanups. The awards ceremony continues to help celebrate the outstanding efforts of Georgia's cleanup organizers.

## FUNDRAISING

100% of state level donations were distributed out to support all of our cleanup groups. Groups also rely on local sponsors to provide trash bags, gloves, insect repellent and first aid kits. Some get contributions of refreshments and food. Many find additional funding to purchase extra RA T-shirts for their cleanup volunteers.

**T-SHIRTS** Once again, our most coveted "thank you" to our volunteers comes in the form of our Rivers Alive t-shirt: some volunteers have collected all 14 shirts ever produced!

## In 2012 . . .





## Volunteers at Work!



City of Hiram



EPA Region 4



Tucker Civic Assoc.



City of Savannah

## Volunteers at Work!



Wassaw Island



The Kattalitt Community



Floyd Co/Rome



Upper Etowah



White Oak Hills

## In the Spotlight

### Tybee Beautification Association



In 2012, the Tybee Beautification Association conducted over 20 clean-ups, attracting more than 1,000 volunteers who removed 5 tons of trash. Cleanup activity focused on the main road entering the island and on conducting beach sweeps, meeting at the piers for bags and gloves. Volunteers were so astounded at how many cigarette butts they found – an average of 300 per volunteer – that they were ready to ban all smoking from the public beaches! Next time you're on a beach vacation, consider joining a local cleanup activity.

**"It's time to ticket for cigarette litter. Once word gets out it will lessen."**

**THANK YOU, Sponsors!**

**Georgia Power  
Coca-Cola Company  
Oglethorpe Power Company  
Golder Associates  
Perdue Farms, Inc.  
Hunton & Williams LLP  
McKenna, Long & Aldridge LLP  
Sutherland LLP  
NewFields**

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM:  
Enterprise Holdings Found.  
Jones Day  
Alston & Bird LLP  
Black & Veatch  
Burns & McDonnell  
Burr & Forman LLP  
Dalton Utilities  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce  
Trinity Consultants  
Environ International Corp.**

**AMEC  
GE Energy  
Allix Magaziner  
Nathaniel Hunt  
Doug Fulle  
EPS  
MEAG Power  
David Brown**