



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rivers Alive Cleanups Target Local Waterways

[AREA] VOLUNTEERS TO CLEAN [AREA] WATERWAYS IN ANNUAL RIVER CLEANUP

[AREA], September 1, 2021-[AREA] area residents will wade into [AREA] rivers, lakes and coastal waters as part of the continuing statewide campaign to clean and preserve over 70,000 miles of Georgia’s rivers and streams. The effort will be part of Rivers Alive, a program of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. The mission of Rivers Alive is to create awareness of and involvement in the preservation of Georgia's water resources. The annual Georgia Waterway Cleanup is expected to be once again the most extensive single volunteer effort to beautify Georgia's water resources.

Volunteers in [AREA] will stage their cleanup at [TIME] on [DATE] at the [EXACT LOCATION]. They will be joining an estimated 20,000 other volunteers statewide participating in the annual river cleanup. This fall over 130 cleanups will collect trash and similar debris in streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and the ocean from the Conasauga River in North Georgia to the St. Marys River in the South.

“[LOCAL ORGANIZER QUOTE]”, said [ORGANIZER, TITLE/LOCAL ORGANIZATION]. In addition to [LOCAL ORGANIZATION], [FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL ORGANIZATION], the cleanup in [AREA] will be sponsored by [LOCAL SPONSOR] and [LOCAL SPONSOR].

Harold Harbert, Watershed Outreach Manager with the Environmental Protection Division, reports that last year, more than 10,000 volunteers cleaned over 900 miles of waterways and removed 274,460 pounds of trash and garbage, including tires, plastic bottles, shopping carts and refrigerators from Georgia's waterways. The 2021 Rivers Alive event is expected to involve thousands of new and returning volunteers and continue to lead as one of the South's largest waterway cleanup efforts.

Statewide sponsors providing generous financial support and assisting with local cleanups include International Paper, Georgia Power, Burns & McDonnell Foundation, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, Perdue Farms, Southwire Company, Wild Heaven Beer, Fieldale Farms Poultry, JDS Inc., Eversheds Sutherland, Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders, and Zee Company. Dozens of other local organizations will be sponsoring individual cleanups around the state.

To volunteer for the [AREA] cleanup, contact [LOCAL ORGANIZER] at [PHONE AND/OR WEBSITE]. For more information about efforts in other areas or the statewide campaign, call (470) 251-8886 or go to www.riversalive.georgia.gov.