

Tale of an URBAN STREAM

Tanyard Creek Park is a popular family destination for walking and enjoying nature along this urban stream, which is located in the Collier Hills neighborhood less than a mile from Atlanta's Peachtree Road.

Yet, this green oasis in the city has a history of sewage spills from public and private sources.

While much has been done to improve water quality, problems continue to plague the creek. Prior to the city's massive sewer system overhaul — the result of CRK's lawsuit in the 1990s — the creek experienced 60-80 sewage overflows a year from a combined sewer overflow (CSO). Most of those problems were corrected when an infrastructure repair project was completed five years ago.

High bacteria levels

Since 2010, CRK has monitored Tanyard Creek weekly with the assistance of the **Collier Hills Civic Association**, as part of our Neighborhood Water Watch Program. Our monitoring data shows that while the sewer system overhaul was successful in deterring spills from the CSO facility, it is not the only source of pollution.

High bacteria levels in a storm drain leading to the creek were detected in 2011. The city's **Department of Watershed Management (DWM)** was able to track the sewage source to a sewer line next to the drain that had been crushed, possibly by construction activity. Once the pipe was repaired, our monitoring showed significantly better water quality in the

creek and wildlife was once again thriving — until recently.

Pollution tracking team

In early July, CRK's pollution tracking team collected an extremely high bacteria sample, indicating a major problem. A search upstream of the park revealed a pipe spewing raw sewage directly into the creek. The city's DWM responded quickly, but not before nearly 10,000 gallons of raw sewage flowed into Tanyard Creek, killing more than 100 fish.

This time the culprit was a power outage at a private lift station owned by **The Reserve at City Park**; the apartment complex had failed to pay its bill and power was shut off, resulting in an overflow of raw sewage into the creek. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is taking an enforcement action against the complex.

In August, another spill was found flowing from a different storm drain. The city's investigation indicated a blockage in a private lateral sewer line, and DWM worked with several nearby businesses to fix the problem.

The moral of this story is that urban streams require constant attention and regular monitoring to keep them healthy and safe for people and wildlife.

To volunteer for CRK's Neighborhood Water Watch Program, contact Mike Meyer at mmeyer@chattahoochee.org or call 404-352-9828.



CRK staffers investigated Tanyard Creek, where a spill led to nearly 10,000 gallons of raw sewage flowing into the creek, killing more than 100 fish.

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Our mission is to advocate and secure the protection and stewardship of the Chattahoochee River, its tributaries and watershed.

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Reflections

Underwater and upside down, I was forced to make my first “wet exit” from my new kayak, instinctively yanking the spray skirt off the boat and pushing up to the surface to gasp for air.

As my boat, paddle and I were propelled downstream, fellow paddlers Dean and Janet moved in expertly to help me capture my boat, right it and dump out the water. I was safe, but shaken.



Our two-day trip began on a beautiful Saturday morning in mid-September, when two dozen paddlers launched a pod of colorful kayaks into the cold water of Sautee Creek in the Nacoochee Valley near Helen.

At the creek’s confluence with the Chattahoochee, we marveled at the clear water with early fall leaves and moss-covered stones easily visible on the river bottom.

Eight miles of paddling took us through one of my favorite sections of the river, its streambanks thick with rhododendron, laurel, wildflowers and towering trees. Then came the “Dead Sea,” still water before our first big rapid at Smith Island.

Following our leader — whitewater expert and long-time CRK board member Gary Gaines — we hugged the left bank as the river dropped, and then crossed to the right bank to make a quick left past a large rock. I hesitated, uncertain which path to take, and hit the rock, flipping my boat.

The next day, we again drifted toward turbulent water — paddles motionless, scanning the rocks in the churning river before us, looking for the best route through the rapid. The smooth, clear water under our kayaks contrasted sharply with the noisy, agitated cauldron just a hundred feet ahead.

I took a deep breath, exhaled, and followed the small red kayak in front of me into the whitewater with knees braced against the sides of my boat, my paddle digging deep into the river.

Left, right, left — powering through the waves and away from the rocks. My heart pounding, I shot through the rapid and safely into calmer waters.

I was elated — my paddling mojo was back!

On the second day of our 19-mile paddle and camping trip on the **Upper Chattahoochee River Water Trail** (total: 36 miles), I had made it through Three Ledges, Horseshoe and other technical rapids — regaining the confidence that I had lost the day before.

Wildwood Outfitters (www.wildwoodoutfitters.com), located on the Chattahoochee about 75 minutes north of Atlanta, is one of the best kept secrets in north Georgia. Managed by whitewater paddler/swimmer Carl Kirkpatrick and owned by Dave and Beverly Gale, this little company has been putting people on the river since the 1970s.

In 2014, make sure to sign up for CRK’s Outings Program — whether you join us and Wildwood to paddle whitewater, take a more leisurely trip on the Metro Hooch, or hike in the watershed!

Sally Bethea
Executive Director and Riverkeeper

Watershed Moment

My trips out on **West Point Lake** in a friend’s sailboat are something I will always remember from my time at LaGrange College. You could always count on a stress-free moment away from the hectic routine of college life. Sometimes there was hardly enough wind to even sail, but it had its advantages. We felt completely serene there, surrounded by water, enjoying the view of the green trees on the shore, and hearing the chirp of a bird or the splash of a fish. Under the pretty blue Georgia sky, we dove into the lake and swam around and then returned home completely refreshed.

— **Kristoffer Emil Appel**, LaGrange

What’s your “Watershed Moment”? Email your hi-res color image of the river, and about 100 words about its inspiration, to dsimmons@chattahoochee.org.



On Patrol

For further details on CRK's investigations and enforcement actions, go to www.chattahoochee.org/on-patrol.

DAM FAILURE NEAR LAKE ALICE CAUSES SERIOUS PROBLEMS

During a heavy rain last summer, the dam below **Lake Alice**, a small impoundment in the city of **Cumming**, failed and unleashed a tsunami-like torrent of polluted water downstream. The dam had not been properly maintained for years; large developments built upstream also contributed to the breach by increasing the volume of stormwater entering Lake Alice.

The dam breach washed out a downstream road, dumped tons of sediment into Lake Lanier, and impacted private property. The dam is jointly owned by the city of Cumming and a local family, and they have agreed to an enforcement action from Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for polluting downstream properties and waterways. It is possible that this disaster could have been averted if Georgia had a better safe dams program.

Inadequate state inspections

Georgia is home to thousands of dams that are aging and deteriorating. Most of them, including the Lake Alice dam, are not inspected by the EPD, despite the fact that unmaintained dams can constitute a threat to public safety and the environment.

Of the nearly 4,300 dams inventoried in Georgia, the state requires the owners to maintain only 484 of them, based on current law. Common problems include trees growing on the face of the dam, rotting and rusted spillways and pipes, severe erosion, and seepage. These problems are exacerbated when upstream areas are hardened with roadways, parking lots and rooftops — and stormwater is propelled toward the dams like a ball out of a cannon. Georgia must invest necessary resources to adequately inspect all dams in the state and then follow up to ensure that any problems are corrected.



A breach at the Lake Alice dam dumped tons of sediment into Lake Lanier.

60-day notice sent to industrial facility

After multiple attempts to work collaboratively with **Valiant Steel and Equipment, Inc.**, CRK sent a 60-day notice of intent to sue the company in July for the discharge of stormwater without a permit into Crooked Creek, a tributary to the Chattahoochee River. Located in the city of Norcross, Valiant Steel is a steel pipe manufacturer that stores pipe materials uncovered, outside and exposed to rain. Under the federal Clean Water Act, industrial facilities with materials and operations exposed to stormwater are required to obtain a discharge permit and comply with specific terms. A year ago, CRK launched our newest program, "Protecting Streams and Communities from Industrial Stormwater" (or PSCIP), to bring facilities such as Valiant Steel into compliance with the industrial stormwater permit regulations.

Hogansville moves to direct discharge

Following years of unpermitted discharges, failure to meet effluent limits, and multiple enforcement orders issued by EPD, the city of Hogansville in Troup County is repairing and upgrading its sewer collection and treatment system. The city currently uses a land application system that was built in 1991, but the spray fields are not suitable in the long term. As part of the system upgrades, the city has requested a direct discharge permit. The new facility, which is expected to be online by 2015, will allow the discharge of almost 1.5 million gallons per day of treated wastewater into **Yellowjacket Creek**, a tributary to **West Point Lake**. CRK will monitor the stream and the new discharge closely, since Yellowjacket is on the state's impaired waters list for bacteria pollution.

State funds reservoirs, little conservation

In August, the **Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA)** awarded nearly \$39 million in low-interest loans from the **Georgia Reservoir and Water Supply Fund** to help finance construction or expansion of reservoirs and other water supply projects. Neither the proposed Glades reservoir in Hall County nor the South Fulton Bear Creek reservoir received GEFA funding. However, later this fall, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) will award another \$44 million in direct state investments (read: grants) for water supply projects. While Bear Creek reservoir proponents appear to have withdrawn their application, Glades reservoir is still eligible for what will amount to a state bailout of consulting expenses already incurred by Hall County, if funded.

GDOT complies with stormwater permit

Until late 2011, the **Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)** may have been the only state transportation system in the country not covered by a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. The MS4 permit is issued under the federal Clean Water Act to regulate untreated stormwater discharges from conveyances such as storm drains and roads. CRK successfully urged state and federal regulatory agencies to issue an MS4 permit to GDOT to prevent harmful pollutants from being washed from roadways into state waters. Earlier this year, GDOT submitted its first annual report in which it identified numerous best management practices in place now and others for future use. GDOT is mapping all of the outfalls from several relevant locations and plans to identify and prevent any discharges into impaired water bodies.

River Stewardship

NEW BOARD MEMBER FOCUSES ON SUSTAINABILITY

At first glance, it might seem like **Rebecca Cranford's** move from global conglomerate Alcoa to **Southwire** in Carrollton — a 45-minute drive west of Atlanta — represented a chance to slow down a bit. As she noted, “I was trying to strike that balance between having a career and a family and interests outside of boarding a plane every Saturday.”

Her emergence last year as Southwire's senior vice-president of sustainability, safety and environment for Southwire also made her a perfect addition to CRK's board of directors. At Southwire, North America's leading manufacturer of wire and cable, Cranford works to improve the company's environmental, health and safety performance while assuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

For example, Cranford initiated a plan in which a newly installed pump system could use water from a large on-site retention pond that catches stormwater runoff. The water channels into the company's casting system. The goal: make Southwire a zero-discharge facility, with no wastewater runoff.



Southwire's Rebecca Cranford brings a unique perspective on corporate responsibility to CRK's board.

Balancing sustainability and investment

Cranford hopes to bring a broader perspective on how corporations balance their challenges of sustainability and return on investment: “I'm not an environmental engineer, but I am somebody who has sat at the table to make those decisions about technology and make the case for return on investment.”

“Maybe I can add some insight into what motivates them, and the different angles to consider when folks are a little reluctant to do the right thing.”

That's music to the ears of CRK's Sally Bethea, who was introduced to Cranford by CRK board member Jamie Pryor of PNC Bank.

“We are thrilled to have Rebecca join our board with her background in business and environmental sustainability,” Bethea said. “Southwire has been a progressive business leader for many years and we look forward to having an individual of Rebecca's caliber help guide our river protection and restoration programs.”

NEW FACES IN CRK SATELLITE OFFICES IN GAINESVILLE AND LAGRANGE!

We've welcomed some new faces to our team up and down the watershed in 2013. In April we brought in Clarkesville resident **Duncan Hughes** as our part-time Headwaters Outreach Coordinator in our Gainesville office. This fall, we enlisted LaGrange resident **Henry Jacobs** as the Regional Outreach Coordinator for our LaGrange office serving the Middle Chattahoochee region.



Duncan Hughes is CRK's new Headwaters Outreach Coordinator in Gainesville.

Duncan is currently working on water quality monitoring projects (including our Neighborhood Water Watch program), the Upper Chattahoochee River Water Trail and various outreach initiatives to engage citizens and municipalities in the Headwaters in watershed protection.

A river enthusiast from his experience paddling and camping in southeast Georgia, Duncan also has an invaluable academic background for our work. He received a B.S. in Environmental Health Science from the University of Georgia and an M.S. in Environmental Science with an emphasis on stream ecology and water resources from Columbus State University. Since 2004, he's worked as the Watershed Coordinator for the Soque Partnership in Habersham County, and will be increasing his role with CRK in 2014.



Henry Jacobs is CRK's Regional Outreach Coordinator in LaGrange.

Henry Jacobs was hired this fall to replace Jill Sistino who did a great job of establishing our satellite office in LaGrange in 2011. He is working on water-related educational programs for local schools, stream monitoring and watershed protection projects with local governments and organizations.

Henry's interest in the Chattahoochee River comes from a childhood spent canoeing on the Flint River, exploring Apalachicola Bay and sailing on Lake Lanier. A recent graduate of LaGrange College, he majored

in History with a minor in Sustainability.

Along with his work for the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, Henry teaches a sailing course at LaGrange College and works part-time for DASH for LaGrange, a local nonprofit housing organization.

“We love the combination of experience, youth and energy that Duncan and Henry bring to our efforts,” said CRK's Sally Bethea. “We need top-quality staff to ensure that we're preserving and protecting the whole of our watershed, and we're excited about the work they'll be doing for us.”

SOLD-OUT TOUR ON LAKE LANIER INSPIRES AND INFORMS

While the rains provided more than their fair share of challenges this year, they didn't keep us from enjoying our newly expanded Outings Program. These staff-led excursions provide paddling, hiking and exploring opportunities at specific areas of importance in our watershed.

Almost all of them were sold out, including a Lake Lanier tour in August led by Technical Programs Director Jason Ulseth with an assist from Executive Director Sally Bethea. Among his many duties, Ulseth oversees water quality sampling conducted during the warm season to provide year-to-year data used in lake protection efforts. Ulseth showed the passengers on our 40-foot catamaran, *Chota Princess II*, how to check the lake for oxygen and temperature at varying levels.

"Connecting people to the river and lakes, so that they can better understand some of the challenges we face, is very important. With information comes power and hopefully better decisions made for all of us," said Ulseth. "That's what

we're about at CRK."

The trip was a huge hit with the 45 participants—from families with young children to retirees who live near the lake but had never been on it.



Jason Ulseth explains our water monitoring program to passengers aboard CRK's catamaran on Lake Lanier.

"Very interesting. Very educational," Dave Rosselle told the *Gainesville Times*. "I learned a lot about the lake, and the history of the lake. Just a very nice program. And, I was really impressed to learn what CRK is doing with their educational programs. Everything they're doing is just awesome.

It's a very valuable resource for the community and area."

Our Outings Program continued through the fall: a mountain hike to the spring that starts the mighty Chattahoochee, a family hike in Sweetwater Creek State Park, a paddle-camping trip on the river downstream of Atlanta and a tour of Hansgrohe's Aquademie and its famous Showerworld.

Make sure to check out our 2014 Outings Program in January at www.chattahoochee.org.

CRK BENEFITS FROM ONE SWEET CHECK!

SweetWater Brewing Company presented CRK with a check for \$43,000 for the Save Our Water Campaign at the Fourth Annual End of Summer BBQ at Canoe on Sept. 7.

Hosted in the restaurant's gardens by the Chattahoochee River, about 200 guests enjoyed a casual outdoor barbecue, featuring ingredients from local farmers and Canoe's own vegetable garden, paired with beers from Atlanta's own SweetWater, as well as live music from Gareth Asher and the Earthlings.

The campaign supports CRK's river patrol and water monitoring programs in the Chattahoochee River watershed, and has raised more than \$350,000 over eight years. In previous years the two groups paired up on the Save the Hooch Campaign, but SweetWater went nationwide with this year's Save Our Water Campaign in partnership with the Waterkeeper Alliance.

CRK staffers lent their support to the campaign by joining SweetWater reps at events throughout metro Atlanta over the summer, including several at Corner Tavern locations, a "BBQ Wednesdays" series at Southern Art in Buckhead, and a fundraiser at 300 Atlanta Lanes organized by United Distributors that brought in \$11,500.



About 200 guests joined us at Canoe for the End of Summer BBQ.

River Matters

For information on these and other river-related events, visit www.chattahoochee.org/calendar

November 1-3

9th Annual Hemlockfest

Dahlonega

November 3

Rain Barrel Workshop

The Frazer Center, Atlanta

November 9

Autumn on the River (Trout Unlimited)

Ippolito's Italian Restaurant, Roswell

November 10

CRK's Member Celebration

Riverview Landing, Mableton

December 13

LAST CHANCE to order holiday gifts from the CRK online store!

<http://chattahoochee.org/shop-with-crk.php>

January 13, 2014

Georgia General Assembly convenes

Georgia Capitol

February 2014

Registration opens Paddle GA 2014

Chattahoochee River

April 12, 2014

Sweep the Hooch

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

BIG THANKS TO OUR SUMMER INTERNS



This past summer we were fortunate to work with an amazing group of interns! The summer 2013 intern staff: **Henry Jacobs** (LaGrange College), **Mary Kate Andrews** (Marist School), **Hunter Jones** (University of Georgia), **Edward Ezekiel** (Emory University), **Melanie Aldred** (Emory University) and **Taylor Spear** (Oglethorpe University). Not pictured: **Ellen Begley** (Mercer University), **Alexandra Horst** (University of Georgia) and **Lucy Wang** (Yale University).

AS CONSTRUCTION CRANKS BACK UP, DIRT IN WATER IS A CONCERN

CRK Technical Programs Director Jason Ulseth has seen an increase in the number of development-related water quality problems this year — as construction cranked up in the post-recession recovery and storms simultaneously deluged the Chattahoochee watershed.

When land is cleared for development, the protective vegetative cover is stripped away and the soil beneath becomes loose and can wash away with rain. Without the proper erosion and sediment control measures (best management practices) installed during construction, downstream waterways fill with mud, resulting in environmental and property damage.

Legislature addressed problem ten years ago

State and federal laws regulate soil and sediment as pollutants under “general stormwater permits for construction activities”. In Georgia, the first general permit was issued in 1992, but due to a series of appeals by an environmental advocate and businessman named Terry Hughey, it did not become effective until 2000.

While regulatory improvements were made through Hughey’s litigation, it was clear that not enough was being done to address the biggest threat to water quality in the state — soil erosion and sedimentation from land-disturbing activities impacting drinking water supplies, recreational areas and property values.

In 2003, the General Assembly enacted major changes in Georgia’s erosion and sedimentation control law by passing House Bill 285; CRK was actively involved in the passage of this legislation and the studies that preceded it. HB 285 resulted in a number of historic changes in the law, including a new permit fee to provide revenue to support the state’s management of the stormwater program, although the legislature has not always appropriated all funds collected to this effort. Education and certification requirements also were established to ensure quality control on design, consistent monitoring, construction and inspections.

CRK keeps dirt from streams

For the past 19 years, CRK has worked to preserve the protections provided by the federal Clean Water Act through general construction



stormwater permits. We started our successful “Get the Dirt Out” program in 2005. We’ve participated in stakeholder negotiations to revise the permits every five years and lobbied the General Assembly to maintain strong buffer protections along waterways.

We operate our Citizen Hotline Program and respond to public concerns about construction site violations. When problems are identified, we work with government agencies and developers to reach a resolution. In cases where the government agencies are either unwilling or unable to take appropriate action, we consider legal action.

Annually, we help secure about a dozen enforcement cases at construction sites that are violating erosion control, wetlands and buffer protection laws, notably: a Georgia Department of Corrections facility in south Fulton County (2005), a Winmark Homes development called Champions Run in Forsyth County (2007), Timberland subdivision by DD&M Investments in Harris County (2008), and the city of Cumming (2009).



Without the proper erosion and sediment control measures installed during construction, downstream waterways fill with mud, resulting in environmental and economic damage.

Cumming site gets federal attention

Construction stormwater problems are generally resolved at the local or state level, but some striking cases will draw the attention of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its inspectors.

In April, CRK received multiple calls from citizens concerned about a 20-acre site on Baldridge Marina Road in the city of Cumming where grading activities on steep slopes without adequate controls were sending muddy water into a stream and ultimately Lake Lanier after every rain. Our efforts to contact the responsible regulatory agency (Cumming) received no meaningful response, so we contacted state and federal officials who

conducted a thorough investigation. EPA decided to lead enforcement efforts to stop the pollution.

CRK will continue to monitor this site in Cumming owned by **Cannon Place LLC** and others that we or our observant members find. Importantly, we will use the construction stormwater permits to their fullest potential to keep our river, lakes and tributaries healthy.

WITH INCREASED RAINFALL, GEORGIA'S CUP RUNNETH OVER

By mid-August, Atlanta had received more than 50 inches of rain, reaching its annual average well before summer's end. The result has been the slaked thirst of a drought-weary Georgia that depends on every drop of rain for drinking water, recreation, wildlife, industry, crops and energy.

But the heavy rainfall has presented Georgia with a fresh new set of challenges that transcend the historic flood many remember from September 2009. The persistence of the 2013 rains has limited the business of fishing guides and outfitters, caused spikes in bacteria levels, increased mosquito populations, and even imperiled some of the state's crops — not to mention the safety issues that come with higher river levels.

Even Lake Lanier, which has been at or above full-pool status for the warm-weather months, has faced challenges.

"As far as the heavy rainfall, I think most homeowners and recreational users were, overall, happy to see a full and beautiful lake this summer," said Joanna Cloud, executive director of the **Lake Lanier Association**, before noting the 50 percent drop in recreation. "That is a heavy price to pay!"

Also, Cloud notes, receding shorelines adversely affected some of the lake's boaters. Then there are the homeowners. For them, Cloud says, "The biggest issue was moving the docks back and forth due to fluctuating water levels. The docks can be difficult to move, and some homeowners have to pay for a service to come out and make adjustments as the water level changes. I know a couple homeowners that now have to swim out to their dock because the walkway is submerged!"

A blessing and a curse

The challenges, like the Chattahoochee itself, flow southward, starting with one of the nation's top-rated trout fisheries that begins below



Photos courtesy of Tom Wilson

Buford Dam and spans the length of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

"Basically, we're darned if we do and darned if we don't," said trout fishing guide Chris Scalley, owner of **River Through Atlanta**. "It's a blessing and a curse. We've lost thousands of dollars, and have sometimes had three cancellations before we've been able to take people out on the water."

With fly fishing, Scalley explains, the speed of the current is everything, because a swift current increases turbidity and prevents the trout from seeing the lures and flies. "It's all about the visual deception of the fish," he said. "They just can't see it as well. We want low, clear water to increase our catch rates." Scalley chuckles: "At the same time, the trout are happy as can be."

Bubba Sloan at **High Country Outfitters** has seen a similar drop-off in business for enthusiasts looking for kayaks or the increasingly popular stand-up paddle boards. Equally optimistic, Sloan admits it's been a "lousy year" before half-jokingly looking on the bright side: "We've been very busy with rain jackets, waterproof boots, tents; they're all way up over other years. When it rains, people have time to shop!"

Impacts of storm runoff

Where the rains have had their most damaging impact is from storm-water runoff, which by far represents the biggest threat to the health of the Chattahoochee River watershed. While bacteria spikes present a public health risk, they do generally decrease almost as quickly as they spike, once the rains dissipate.

But the runoff keeps coming and the damage can be incalculable. The increased rainfall has paralleled another trend: real estate development.

"Development tanked in 2007," notes CRK Technical Programs Director Jason Ulseth, "and now it's starting to come back again. So you see more commercial and residential development. You get all the heavy rains, you get lots of water, but you also get all the pollution that accumulates at construction sites, industrial sites, parking lots, roadways, rooftops, lawns, golf courses, just about anything. Even fertilizers and pesticides from landscaped areas are a factor."

"Baby, the rain must fall."

— Glenn Yarbrough

HOME DEPOT GARDEN CENTERS SAVE WATER

The Home Depot has installed water reclamation tanks in the Garden Centers of five metro Atlanta stores, including Hiram, Loganville, Midtown, Merchants Walk and Sandy Springs.

Each tank (like the one pictured below) collects more than 500,000 gallons of water annually in condensation from HVAC systems and rainwater from roof tops.

The Home Depot reuses the reclaimed water to irrigate its Garden Centers with highly efficient sprinkler heads and controllers. The Home Depot has retrofitted the Hiram store and four others with efficient fixtures, saving an additional million gallons of water annually across metro Atlanta. The Home Depot plans to add five more Atlanta area stores to this water savings initiative, which should double the water savings.

According to the Southeast Rainwater Harvesting Systems Association, large-scale rainwater harvesting could save the region 27 million gallons of water per day by 2016.

To learn more about rainwater harvesting and other ways businesses and local governments are saving water, read CRK's 2012 update to its report, "Filling the Water Gap: Conservation Successes and Missed Opportunities in Metro Atlanta" (<http://www.chattahoochee.org/filling-the-water-gap-report.php>).

For tips on how you can save water, visit our "No Time to Waste" webpage (<http://www.chattahoochee.org/no-time-to-waste.php>).



Each rainwater tank helps The Home Depot save 500,000 gallons per year.

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Scan the QR code to visit our
website!

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RiverCHAT electronically,
contact David Lee Simmons at
dsimmons@chattahoochee.org.

MEMBER CELEBRATION SET FOR NOV. 10!

We hope you'll join us on Sunday, Nov. 10, for our annual Member Celebration as we look back on 2013's success stories, hear from inspiring speakers, and honor the hard work of our volunteers. This year's location: Riverview Landing in Mableton, an Atlanta suburb located just outside I-285 in the northwest section.



Admission is FREE for current members! New or renewing members can get in for \$25 (individual) or \$40 (family) — \$10 off our new membership price. We will have music, catered food and guest speakers. To learn more about the event, visit www.chattahoochee.org.