

# CHATTAHOOCHEE WATERSHED POCKET GUIDE

The Chattahoochee is Georgia's largest tri-state river basin. It originates in the mountains of our state, flows through Atlanta and west to Alabama, then south across Florida.



Millions of people depend on the Chattahoochee River system for drinking water, recreation, waste assimilation, hydropower, wildlife habitat and fisheries, industries and farming. Yet, this lifeline that links urban and rural communities from the mountains to the sea, is threatened by sewage spills, leaking septic systems, trash, and polluted stormwater from overdevelopment – all of which get into the river that supplies our drinking water.

## Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

Since 1994, UCR has worked successfully to protect and restore the Chattahoochee River and its tributaries because healthy rivers sustain a great variety of life and are a vital part of our communities.

To ensure *clean water* for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren, UCR uses education, monitoring, research, outreach, restoration, advocacy, and legal actions to accomplish our goals.

## UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERKEEPER®

*Keeping Watch Over Our Waters*

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[www.chattahoochee.org](http://www.chattahoochee.org)



A **river basin**, or watershed, is a geographic area consisting of *all the land that water flows across, under and through* on its way to an outlet, such as a larger river, a lake or the ocean.



#### RECREATION

In the Upper Chattahoochee River Basin, Lakes Lanier and West Point, and the river itself offer excellent boating and fishing opportunities.

To find parks, trails, and boating access within the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, visit the National Park Service: [www.nps.gov/chat](http://www.nps.gov/chat) or call 678.538.1200.

To find out about river gauge levels and general water quality, visit [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov). Click on Georgia in the U.S. map.

For dam releases, call 770.945.1466 (Buford Dam) or 404.329.1455 (Morgan Falls Dam).

For information on fishing and consumption guidelines, call 770.918.6418 or visit [www.gadnr.org](http://www.gadnr.org)

#### RIVER HOTLINE

If you observe water quality problems in your community (e.g. fish kills, unusual odors, sewage spills, stream buffer damage, dirty stormwater), call 404.352.9828, or visit [www.chattahoochee.org](http://www.chattahoochee.org) and file an on-line report. UCR's Hotline Program works to empower, inform and activate the people who live, work and recreate in the Chattahoochee waters.

**Join us!**

**\*\*For water quality-related emergencies requiring an immediate response, call the Georgia EPD at 1.800.241.4113.**

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO!

**Join Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper Today!** Help us keep watch over our waters by becoming a member. Respond to our action alerts. Participate in our member outings and learn more about north Georgia's most important natural resource! Involve your friends and communities in our workshops, annual race, cleanups and celebrations.

*Together, we can protect and restore the River and its tributaries that flow through your neighborhoods!*