



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.

## **March 2014**

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South River upstream of Browns Mill Golf Course  
City of Atlanta



other trash forming mini dams in the stream's channel. These obstructions disrupt the water's natural flow forcing the stream out of its banks causing downstream stream bank erosion and flooding. Removing these type obstacles help to stabilize creek bank vegetation, allow the creek to return to its course in the channel, reduce flooding hazards, and improve wildlife habitat and the overall functioning of the waterway.

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## Need Help with Your Earth Day Cleanup?

Earth Day is April 22. SRWA will celebrate Earth's big day in a big way on Saturday, April 26, by once again, as we did last year, hosting a multi-site cleanup of the South River at Panola Shoals, the Everett Property, Constitution Lakes, and Panthersville Road.



It only takes a few to make a big difference  
Earth Day 2013 Volunteers

SRWA will also help neighborhoods in south DeKalb County organize their own cleanup along major South River tribs including Honey, Snapfinger, Cobbs, Shoal, Sugar, Intrenchment, Conley, Doless and Doolittle Creeks. Through our great partnership with DeKalb County, SRWA will make sure you have ample cleaning supplies and coordinate with the Sanitation Department to pick up the debris and trash that you collect. All you have to do is contact your friends and neighbors and ask them to volunteer; identify the specific section of the creek your group will target; and register your event. Don't forget to provide contact information for the event organizer. Someone from SRWA will be in touch to help make your cleanup a success.

To assist with planning and keeping track of this big event, we ask that all volunteers (individuals and groups) register via [Eventbrite](#) by April 1. When registering for one of the four South River cleanups remember to include the name of the site where you will volunteer. Do something great for the stream in your backyard or neighborhood and organize a cleanup in recognition of Earth Day.

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## Upcoming Events

Visit our new Events calendar [www.southeriverga.org](http://www.southeriverga.org)

### **Where the Water Goes - The Headwaters - Saturday, March 22 - 9:00 - 2:00 pm (BYO Lunch)**

Location: East Point and Southeast Atlanta Neighborhoods

We will begin this very special outing at the headwaters of the South River in East Point, then follow it's traces through neighborhoods and Atlanta's South Bend Park, with our final walk along the path and boardwalk at one of DeKalb County's hidden gems - Constitution Lakes, which was an old clay quarry that is now a rich network of lakes and wetlands adjacent to the South River corridor. We'll enjoy a picnic lunch at the lakes, and SRWA president Jackie Echols will join us to share the history and importance of this significant river. This outing will involve visiting several locations with light walking, not more than 1.5 miles total. Van transportation will be available from the meeting location or bring your own vehicle. [Click here](#) to register. Meet up directions will be sent to registered participants. [SRWA](#), [EcoAddendum](#) and [Keeping It Wild](#) partnership event.

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

**Super Sunday Hike with Ranger Robby @ Arabia-Davidson Nature Preserve, Sunday, March 9, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.** This event is part of Monadnock Madness, a month long event that invites you to discover three local granite peaks in one month, or in just one day! We want you to get up close and personal with Arabia, Panola, and Stone Mountain parks! Finish the weekend with a rejuvenating and adventurous hike with Davidson-Arabia's resident naturalist Ranger Robby. Free. [More info](#)

**Mad March Hikes - March 16, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.** During March join Ranger Robby on some "mad" adventures! He'll lead hikers to some of the most spectacular spots in the Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve. You'll see secret trails and hidden gems during these fast and fun hikes. Free. [More info](#)

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### **Yearlong "Trib-a-thon" Tribute**

To bring even more attention and awareness to the South River watershed, its creeks, streams, and communities, beginning April 2014 and continuing until April 2015, SRWA will feature one of the South River's tribs in its monthly e-newsletter. If there is a creek in your neighborhood that you would like to know more about or if you have information about a creek in your community that you would like to share send an email to [southeriverwatershedalliance@gmail.com](mailto:southeriverwatershedalliance@gmail.com). Remember to include your address and phone number. To kickoff the South River "Trib-a-thon" the featured creek in April will be Doolittle Creek.

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## SRWA Presents at National Conference

SRWA has been selected to present at River Rally 2014, a joint production of Waterkeeper Alliance and River Network, two of the largest river conservation organizations in the U.S. The conference will be held, May 30 - June 2, in Pittsburgh, PA. More than 150 proposals were submitted for 70 presentation slots. The presentation will narrate how SRWA successfully uses restoration of the South River as an effective bridge to connect and engage different groups in pursuing environmental solutions that symbolize common ground. This conference attracts the largest gathering of clean water advocates in the country and SRWA is excited to be able to share its message on this national stage.

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## Repeats & Reminders

### DeKalb County BoC

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404-371-2881

[Email](#)

Elaine Boyer, District 1  
404-371-2844

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Jeff Rader, District 2  
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Larry Johnson, District 3  
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Sharon Barnes Sutton, District 4  
404-371-4749

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Lee May, District 5  
404-371-4745

[Email](#)

Kathie Gannon, District 6  
404-371-4909

[Email](#)

### Septic System Grants

The Upper Ocmulgee River Resource Conservation and Development Council has funds available for cost-share grants for installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will help improve water quality in the South River basin. BMPs may include maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of failing septic system, trash and debris cleanup, and the elimination of stream access to domestic animals.

Grant awards are reimbursement only (i.e., the property owner must pay for installation of the BMP and will be reimbursed for up to 50% of the cost). There will be a cap on the amount of money that can be reimbursed for any one project.

Areas eligible to receive these grants include any properties which drain to the South River or

Stan Watson, District 7  
404-371-3681

[Email](#)

any of its tributaries. For additional information Bob Scott, Program Manager, 678-376-9518.



Albert Shoal



River Cane

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**BECOME A MEMBER**

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