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Ogeechee Riverkeeper®

Newsletter
April 2023



ORK will be in three places this Earth Day!

Earth Day is a busy one for ORK!

Ogeechee Riverkeeper is hosting the [Canoochee Paddle Race](#) in Evans County.

Registrations are closed but all are welcome to come out and cheer for the racers. There will be music, food, and an awards ceremony!

Ogeechee Riverkeeper's Damon Mullis will be speaking at [420 Fest](#) at Sweetwater Brewery in Atlanta. ORK was invited by Sweetwater and [Waterkeeper Alliance](#) as part of the

sustainability presentations. ORK will be focused on PFAS and Sweetwater is launching a special brew to mark the occasion. Make sure you stop by and say hello!

We will also be at the [Earth Day Festival](#), hosted by Effingham Georgia Green and the City of Guyton. The event will coincide with Guyton's Spring Sale Along the Trail.

We can't wait to see you!

[Paddle Race](#)[420 Fest](#)[Earth Day in Guyton](#)

Great American Cleanup – Sparta

ORK is proud to be part of the Great American Cleanup again, this time in Sparta, Georgia. This event will be held **April 29** and is in partnership with the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation. Registration to participate is now open.

[Sign up now](#)

April is Membership Month

Thanks to member support over the past year, we've been able to launch new monitoring stations, connect grassroots citizen coalitions, and work with local schools, universities, and municipalities to protect the Ogeechee River basin.

[Join now](#)



Be an active citizen

Legal Advocacy

One of ORK's roles is to provide expert comments on applications regarding water quality impacts. Recently, ORK has written official response to the following proposals:

- Land Application System (LAS) permit for the Avalon Trace Subdivision - Bulloch County, near Statesboro
- Highway 80 warehouse development - Effingham County, near Bloomingdale

Photos from Riverfest

We had a fabulous time at Riverfest in Warren/Hancock counties! Thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers, raffle donors, and to everyone who came out for a beautiful day by the river.

[View photos from the event.](#)



Riverfest photos



Read more

Fellowship Blog: Macroinvertebrate Sampling

Macroinvertebrates are insects, molluscs, and other invertebrate organisms that are visible in the water with the naked eye. We even got to see the early emergence of some mayflies on the river.

Planned Giving

Have you considered protecting the Ogeechee River basin in your estate plan? By leaving a legacy gift to Ogeechee Riverkeeper, you can help to preserve, protect, and improve our watershed for

generations to come. These planned donations also offer benefits to you and your family.

[Learn more](#)[Details](#)

Rain barrel giveaway

ORK and the City are holding their third rain barrel giveaway at Daffin Park on Thursday, May 4, 2023. Area residents can pick up a free rain barrel from 5 – 7 p.m., in the sandy parking lot behind the stadium. Barrels are limited and will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis.

Earth Month Pledge

ORK challenges everyone to make a pledge for the month of April and complete a service project that benefits the environment. Get creative! ORK has some suggestions.

Plus, if you are located within the Ogeechee River watershed, ORK can provide volunteer credit for service.

[Ideas](#)

**There are many ways you can help the Ogeechee Riverkeeper protect,
preserve and improve the waterways within our basin.**

[Donate](#)[Join](#)[Volunteer](#)[Shop](#)

Ogeechee Riverkeeper, Inc.
PO Box 16206
Savannah, Georgia 31416-2906
(866) 942-6222
info@ogeecheeriverkeeper.org
www.ogeecheeriverkeeper.org



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