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Ogeechee Riverkeeper®

Newsletter

February 2022



Photo: Butter Bean Beach, Jackson Evans

Members-Only Events Are Here!

ORK will host a handful of events throughout the watershed during -- and they are only available to members! From paddles to nature walks, these guided events will show you a new perspective to our beautiful basin. Events include:

- **Tree walk with Savannah Tree Foundation**
- **Paddles in Bryan, Jenkins, and Emanuel counties**
- **Plant walk with Botanic Garden at Georgia Southern**

- **And more to be announced soon!**

[View calendar of events](#)

Not a member? [Become one now](#) to join all of our members-only events!

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant

ORK was awarded a [Five Star grant](#) from the NFWF in support of its ongoing [Protect The Vernon project](#). The grant, totalling \$93,200, includes more than \$45,000 in matching funds and on-the-ground support from local experts, municipalities, and organizations. The funding will allow ORK to engage stakeholders in a scientific plan and help move the Vernon River toward greater ecological health.


[More about the grant](#)

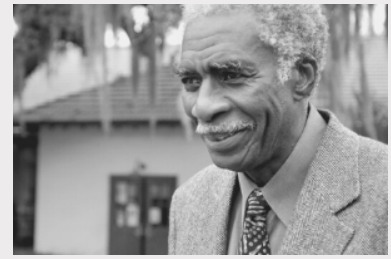

Why do you #LoveORK?

"The coastal rivers of Savannah are perfect for open water swimming. The salinity offers added buoyancy and the tidal current sends swimmers to fly with the flow." ~Grace Wilson

The whole month of February we will be celebrating why we love the Ogeechee, Canoochee, and coastal rivers! Tell us why you love ORK and our watershed with [#LoveORK!](#)

Black History Month

Read the stories of Black environmentalists. From the first African-American to serve as the Superintendent of the National Park System to local activists protecting the Gullah-Geechee Heritage corridor to young people taking up birding, there is much to celebrate.

[Read their stories](#)[View the challenge](#)

Water, I Love You!

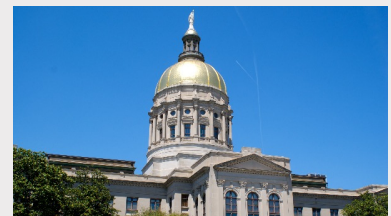
This month's education activity challenges you to put on your creativity cap and tell us *why* you love water. Think outside the traditional Valentine's celebrations. Use any platform, mixed media or words and share that love this year for the month of February.

Activity is open to all ages. Share why you love water and what it means to you at info@ogeecheeriverkeeper.org or on social media using #LoveORK.

Legislative updates

ORK, along with Georgia Water Coalition, is working with lawmakers to ensure clean water is protected across the state. We are currently watching HB 1150, HB 1289, HB 647 & HB 176.

View their progress via the [Bill Tracker](#) or [contact your representatives](#).

[Take action](#)

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

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

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