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# Ogeechee Riverkeeper®

Newsletter

February 2024



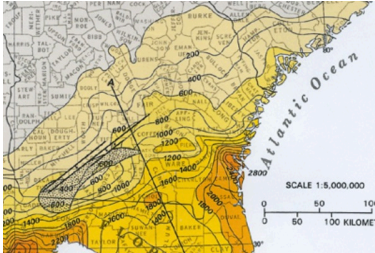
## Join us for Capitol Conservation Day

Georgia's legislative session has opened. Ogeechee Riverkeeper is working with Georgia Water Coalition on these priority issues:

- Passing [HB 71](#) to protect the Okefenokee from surface mining.
- Advancing regulation of soil amendments ([HB 477](#)) to protect rural communities from industrial waste.
- Defeating [HB370](#) which opens the door for private landowners to get paid for 'conserving' already protected salt marsh.

Citizens can join the fight for clean water by participating in Capitol Conservation Day on **Tuesday, February 27**. Georgia Water Coalition holds this event each year. Gather for a continental breakfast, orientation, and issue briefings at the Central Presbyterian Church, then walk across the street to the Capitol for a group photograph and to meet with legislators about timely water legislation.

## Details and registration



Watch the webinar

### Understanding the Floridan Aquifer

Ogeechee Riverkeeper hosted an informational webinar on aquifers, groundwater and sustainability with James Reichard, Ph.D., professor of geology at Georgia Southern University (Statesboro). Attendees were also able to ask questions. The recording is now [available to view](#).

### Look up your legislators

ORK has two ways to help citizens find their legislators. Enter your address and zip code for a list of representatives that shows where each legislator works. [Start now](#).

You can also send messages via [protectgeorgia.org](https://protectgeorgia.org). We'll even get you started with a template!



Find your reps



Read the report and applications

## Bulloch County public meeting

Georgia EPD will host a meeting on Monday, **February 26**, 6-9 p.m., at Southeast Bulloch High School, 9184 Brooklet-Denmark Highway, Brooklet, Georgia, to provide information on the potential groundwater impacts from the requested withdrawals for water supply to the Bryan County Mega-Site. ORK encourages people to attend this meeting, ask questions, and to submit comments as applicable. Written comments may be sent to [EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov) by **March 8**.

Helpful links:

- [ORK's DRI Comments](#)
- [Public Meeting Announcement](#)
- [Preliminary Engineering Report, including well applications](#)
- [DRAFT of Special Conditions proposed](#)

## Canoochee Paddle Race

The race will take place **Saturday, April 13 at noon**, along approximately seven miles of the Canoochee River, from Brewton Bridge to Rocks River Bridge Landing. Entry is limited and pre-registration is required.



Get ready to race



View ORK's official comments

## Legal advocacy

As part of Ogeechee Riverkeeper's mission to protect, preserve, and improve the water quality in our basin, ORK makes official comments. Recent comments:

- Coastal Marshlands Upland Component rulemaking
- Hinesville/Long County Groundwater Withdrawal permit
- Warnell Farms PUD DRI
- General LAS Permit for Animal Feed Operations

## Canoochee Cleanup

We need your help with make sure the landings are ready for the Canoochee Paddle Race. Join us April 10, 4-6 p.m. Clean up locations include Rocks River and Brewton Bridge landings. We'll bring supplies -- you bring your enthusiasm!



[Register to volunteer](#)



## #LoveORK

"I love water because water allows us to escape to another world. Where else can you hurl yourself head first and slip into a realm that removes all the weight of the world above?" ~ Grace Wilson

Why do you #LoveORK?

[Post your Valentine to ORK](#)

## Corporate sponsorships

Ogeechee Riverkeeper offers annual corporate sponsorship with multiple levels of giving. Your sponsorship comes with multiple perks (including tickets to special events), supports us in our ongoing efforts, and helps us reach more people in our watershed — and benefits are for an entire year.



[Get details](#)



## Education resources

Ogeechee Riverkeeper offers a virtual library of free educational resources for parents, teachers, and curious students. Find ideas, activities and more to inspire nature learning. We've even included **Georgia Standards of Excellence** for educators' reference.



[Get ideas](#)

Ogeechee Riverkeeper is a 501(c)3 organization and its operations are funded by donations and grant support. Please consider making [a donation](#), becoming a [corporate sponsor](#), or setting up a [planned gift](#).

**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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