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Ogeechee Riverkeeper®

Newsletter

May 2024



HB 1223 is signed into law

Ogeechee Riverkeeper celebrates the signing of House Bill 1223 into law. This legislation represents a small but crucial step forward in safeguarding the health and vitality of Georgia's rivers, streams, and wetlands.

HB 1223, supported by environmental groups across the state, bolsters protections for Georgia's water resources by strengthening regulations related to companies providing 'soil amendments'. It requires transparency on the contents of the amendments and provides some measures of enforcement.

ORK has been a vocal advocate for strong environmental policies and has actively engaged stakeholders in promoting sustainable water management practices.

[Learn more](#)

[Final law](#)

Dirty Dozen exposed

The Dirty Dozen report has been released highlighting 12 of the worst offenses to Georgia's water and serves as a call to action to solve these problems. Proudly, Georgia touts itself as the No. 1 state to do business, but that success in economic development is not without its consequences.



[Read the report](#)



Clean 13 Heroes

ORK staff attended the #Clean13 celebration! The annual event, hosted by [Georgia Water Coalition](#), honors those who are doing great work to conserve and protect water resources in the state. Learn more about the #CleanWater heroes.

[The Clean 13 report](#)

Hinesville volunteers needed

Volunteer for the Hinesville Community Cleanup on May 18, as a part of the Great American Cleanup through Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation. Gather your friends and neighbors for a cleanup at Bryant Commons Park. Supplies will be provided. This

is also a partnership event with Keep Liberty Beautiful & the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority.



[Sign up](#)



[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 and joins sign-on letters. Recent comments:

- [Williamson Tract DRI](#)
- [Southbound Timberland Tract DRI](#)
- [Rockingham Farms Wetlands Permit](#)

Crusty crabs

Our basin is teeming with a diverse array of crab species, each with its own unique characteristics and role within our aquatic ecosystems. From the feisty blue crab to the elusive stone crab, these fascinating creatures play a vital role in maintaining the delicate balance of life in our rivers and estuaries.



[Learn more](#)

Take a moment to thank our Little Ogeechee level sponsors who support the work of Ogeechee Riverkeeper year round!



Corporate sponsorship comes with multiple perks (including tickets to special events), supports ORK's ongoing efforts, and helps us reach more people in our watershed — and the benefits are for an entire year. Interested? [Check out the perks and sign up today.](#)



Green Truck Membership Night

Green Truck Neighborhood Pub is partnering with ORK for Membership Month by hosting a Community Night on Tuesday, June 18. From 5 p.m. – 9 p.m., Green Truck will match donations made to ORK that day and donate a portion of total sales. ORK staff will be on hand to answer questions and share information about the organization's work.

[View details](#)

Adopt-A-Landing

ORK is encouraging families and households to adopt a spot on the river and commit to checking it for litter regularly. Our goal is to have [each location](#) 'adopted' by a dedicated crew who will make sure the litter is collected and disposed of properly.



[Adopt a landing](#)

ORK hats

Before it gets hot, get a supersoft, all-fabric baseball cap with a low profile crown. The twill is garment washed and an embroidered patch sports the ORK logo. A tuck strap in the back makes it one-size-fits-all. Comes in three colors!

[Online store](#)

Ogeechee River Trail on app

Georgia River Network added the Ogeechee River Water Trail as an established part of the Georgia Water Trails Network. This designation will encourage more recreation on the 207 miles of river recreation offered on the river, from flatwater paddling to class III paddle adventures.

[Download the app](#)

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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