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Ogeechee Riverkeeper®

*Newsletter*  
September 2024



## ORK Oyster Roast is November 13 at Love's Seafood

Ogeechee Riverkeeper's annual oyster roast has a new location this fall! Sit on the banks of the Ogeechee River and enjoy freshly steamed oysters, plus delicious chicken fingers, fried shrimp, and sides from [Love's Seafood](#).

We'll have live music from [Damon & the Sh\\*tickers](#), awesome silent auction items, gorgeous views, and great fun!

This event is the main annual fundraiser for ORK.

Tickets are \$75 per person and will be on sale **Sunday, September 15**.

*Corporate sponsorships offer perks all year long. Depending on the level of sponsorship, benefits can include tickets to the Oyster Roast. View levels and benefits [here](#).*

[Event details](#)[Tickets](#)[Corporate Sponsorships](#)

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**Post-flood water quality**

**ORK recommends the public follow the guidelines provided by the leading agencies. ORK is not an emergency response organization or a public health authority.**

Hurricane Debby caused the Ogeechee River and tributaries to flood a number of nearby areas. As the water receded, it took the residue of all it touched with it. Oil and gasoline, debris, untreated wastewater, and fertilizer, for example, all washed into the river and eventually out to the ocean.

We have had a number of inquiries about the safety of swimming in the river or the sounds, or eating the seafood from those areas. Ogeechee Riverkeeper (ORK) does not issue “swim” advisories but shares the information of those that conduct those tests and maintains that data.

Georgia DNR maintains a map of [Georgia Healthy Beaches](#), or contact program manager Ed Zmarzly at [edward.zmarzly@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:edward.zmarzly@dnr.ga.gov) or 912-264-7218.



[More links and contacts](#)



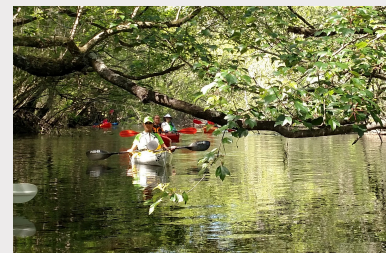
[Apply now](#)

## Water Policy Intern

Ogeechee Riverkeeper and Savannah Riverkeeper are seeking a Water Policy Intern that will research water supply facts, issues, concerns, and strategies. This **paid part-time position** will work as an integral part of a small staff and will report to the ORK Legal Director.

## Ft. Stewart Paddle

This paddle will be led by Ft. Stewart's Fish and Wildlife Branch on October 12. ORK membership is not required, but encouraged. This is a lower watershed paddle on the Canoochee River. The paddle is free to attend but participants **\*must\*** provide their own gear and vessels. Attendees should also bring their own lunch and water.



[Paddle details](#)



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. Review the latest.

- [24.08.08 – Hacks Pasture PUD DRI](#)
- [24.08.20 - Groundwater Applications for Bryan County Megasite comment](#)

## Little Lotts Cleanups

Join ORK and Keep Statesboro-Bulloch Beautiful as we jump into Little Lotts Creek for regular cleanups! You'll help clear the litter boom, then help us sort and analyze what is found. This information assists us in tracking and preventing litter in the future.



Little Lotts schedule



View the data

## Protect the Vernon

Ogeechee Riverkeeper and the City of Savannah are leading a long-term project to protect the water quality and ecology of the Vernon River, which **drains approximately 40% of the City of Savannah**, via urban and suburban runoff that flows through Wilshire Canal, Harmon Canal, Casey Canal, and Hayners Creek. ORK monitors 61 sites in the Vernon watershed and all of the data from 2012 to present is available on our website.

## Upcoming Events



September 21: [Ogeechee River Shoals Community Cleanup](#)

October 12: [Ft. Stewart Paddle](#)

November 2: [Yoga By The River](#)

November 13: [Oyster Roast](#)



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](#)

Ogeechee Riverkeeper, Inc.

PO Box 16206

Savannah, Georgia 31416-2906

(866) 942-6222

[info@ogeecheeriverkeeper.org](mailto:info@ogeecheeriverkeeper.org)

[www.ogeecheeriverkeeper.org](http://www.ogeecheeriverkeeper.org)

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