

TPL and our partners have preserved more than 76 miles of shoreline and 16,000 acres in the Chattahoochee River's watershed.

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER LAND PROTECTION PROGRAM

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF SUCCESS



JERRY AND MARCY MONKMAN



PENNY PIX PHOTOGRAPHY

The Chattahoochee River is one of Georgia's defining features. Its waters and shoreline support a vast array of plants and animals and support Georgians and our economy by providing drinking water, power, and recreation. The Trust for Public Land was one of the first national conservation organizations to help protect the Chattahoochee's water quality and save its extraordinary natural beauty.

Our mission is to preserve as much land as possible along the 180-mile Chattahoochee River corridor from the headwaters in north Georgia to the City of Columbus.

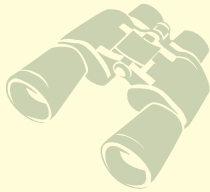
CARLOS FRASER



Snake Creek Heritage Preserve – History and Adventure

Steep slopes, rock outcroppings and whitewater rapids characterize the Snake Creek Gorge. The area has scenic beauty and historic significance, with 19th century mill ruins and heritage sites of the Creek Indians and the Civil War. Here, TPL worked with Carroll County to preserve more than 800 acres, including a 150-acre public preserve along the creek, a tributary of the Chattahoochee, plus another 655 acres permanently protected by a conservation easement.

MITCH LATHEM



Since 1991, with the support of donors like you, The Trust for Public Land has been working in Georgia to conserve land for people to improve the quality of life in communities and to protect our natural and historic resources. To learn how you can help, contact us at 404.873.7306 or visit us online at www.tpl.org/georgia.



Hardman Farm – Gold and Green

The 200-acre Hardman Farm is a Nacoochee Valley landmark which includes the former Governor's 1860s Italianate villa, remnants of Georgia's 1820s gold rush, a Native American burial ground, and superior trout fishing. Here in the Chattahoochee headwaters, the river is clear and cold, the trout are plentiful, and anglers busily cast their lines before sunset. TPL worked with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to preserve the historic farm and lands along both sides of the river that connect the property to Smithgall Woods State Park.

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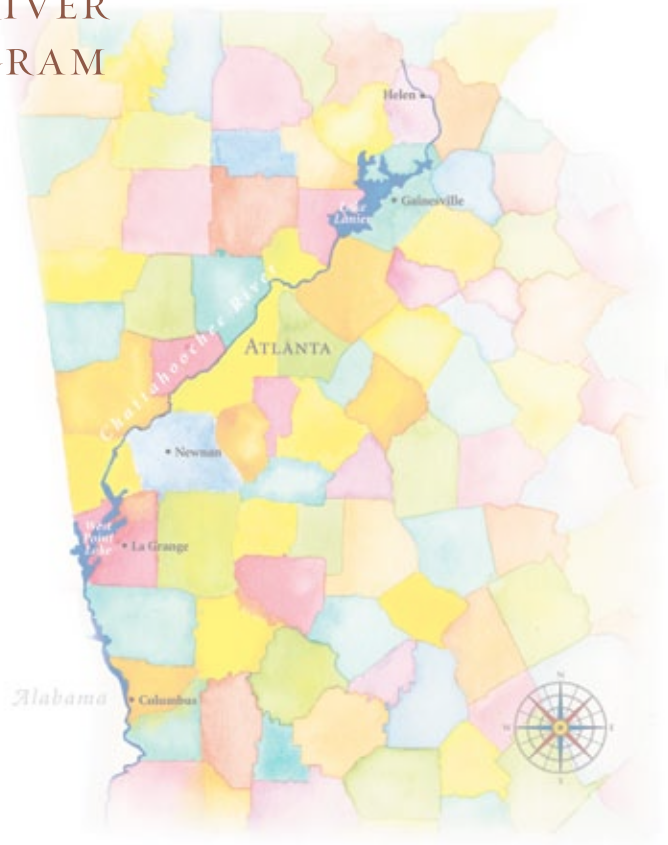
At its beginning, the Chattahoochee rises from a tiny spring just below the Appalachian Trail in the north Georgia mountains. The river's headwaters drain into Lake Lanier north of Atlanta, creating a small watershed with a big job—the river basin supplies more than 70 percent of metro Atlanta's drinking water.

On its way to the Florida border, the river provides drinking water for millions of Georgians and recreational opportunities for some twenty-five million people who come here to enjoy fishing, canoeing, kayaking, bird watching and hiking along the river corridor's trails and greenways. The Chattahoochee corridor provides magnificent scenic vistas and habitat for birds and wildlife such as fox, deer, beavers, great blue herons and osprey, to name just a few.

Georgia's Lifeblood

The river is one of Georgia's most significant geographic and environmental features. In addition to its value as a drinking water and recreational resource, the Chattahoochee also generates electricity and supports industry and agriculture. Pete McTier, former president of the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, may have put it best: "Nowhere else in America do so many people rely on such a small watershed. The Chattahoochee is not just Georgia's most precious natural resource, it is our lifeblood."

Not long ago, this precious natural resource was in trouble. By 1990, Metro Atlanta had grown into one of the nation's top ten urban areas, a successful global hub of transportation and communication. Our region's healthy economy



"The Chattahoochee is important from every point of view . . . from environmental protection to economic development to recreation to public health."

- Deen Day Smith, Cecil B. Day Investment Company

and great quality of life had brought dramatic population growth and rapid development of land. Throughout the area, green space was disappearing.

Increasingly, the waters of the Chattahoochee were overused and under protected. Raw sewage and other pollutants were dumped into the river, and construction was proceeding unchecked along its banks. In 1993 and 1994, American Rivers, a leading national advocacy group, named the Chattahoochee one of the most threatened urban rivers in America.

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER LAND PROTECTION CAMPAIGN

The Trust for Public Land and other conservationists came together in 1995 to launch the Chattahoochee River Land Protection Campaign. The goals were to protect water quality and ensure continued recreation along the river by creating a clean green corridor from the north Georgia mountains south to Columbus, where the river becomes a navigable waterway.

From the beginning, Georgia residents, government leaders and private partners embraced this mission. The urgent importance of cleaning up the river and safeguarding its health for families today and for those who come after us was clear then, and now.

Since launching the Chattahoochee Campaign, TPL and our partners have preserved over 150 miles of riverfront land for parks and trails. Together we have raised more than \$160 million from federal, state and local agencies, philanthropic institutions, and generous individual donors. This support has enabled us to conserve more than 16,000 acres, land worth more than \$250 million, through more than 50 separate transactions.

A Decade of Success

For more than a decade, significant conservation has continued along the main stem of the river. During the past few years, TPL has concentrated

the river. We also helped preserve nearly 1,600 acres surrounding key tributaries such as the Snake and Dog rivers in Carroll County. Protecting these water sources is critically important to safeguarding the river's water quality.

Another focus area is Central Georgia, where TPL purchased and donated 218 acres of riverfront land to the city of West Point that will serve as a public greenspace and help connect the city to West Point Lake near the Georgia-Alabama state line. Further

downstream, in Columbus, we continue to be a key partner in supporting the removal of Columbus Mills and Dam, which for decades have artificially constrained the flow of the river. The

permitting to remove the dam is now under way. This significant effort will restore the river's natural flow and allow its ecosystems to flourish once again.

Chattahoochee River Campaign Goals

- Protect safe and clean drinking water
- Provide places for people to hike, bike, fish, jog and relax near their homes
- Enhance the quality of life in communities along the river
- Protect an oasis of natural habitat in the midst of a rapidly developing region

Chattahoochee (*chat-uh-hoo-chee*): a Native American (Creek) word which means "river of painted rocks", possibly referring to the many colorful rock outcroppings along the river.

on preserving land around the river's headwaters and tributaries. We protected more than 560 acres in the headwaters area north of Helen, including the northernmost privately held property on



Roswell River Walk – Smart Park Planning

Strong community involvement, smart park planning, and a partnership between the City of Roswell, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and TPL combined to create a seven-mile greenway connecting local parks and the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. A generous donation from landowner Nancy Baird, who died in 2008, added more than 1,200 feet of riverfront to the new park. TPL also provided \$1 million of Chattahoochee Program funds toward construction of the new Chattahoochee Nature Center fronting on this beautiful stretch of greenway.

NICK ARROYO



Hyde Farm – Working Farm Tradition

One of the last working farms near Atlanta, this property on the banks of the Chattahoochee River is little changed from a century ago. While urban sprawl surrounded them, brothers Buck and J. C. Hyde continued to work the land using a hand plow pulled by a mule. After the passing of his brother, J.C. Hyde in 1992 sought TPL's assistance in preserving the farm. That year, TPL bought the first 40 acres of riverfront acreage and conveyed them to the National Park Service's Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. J. C. Hyde continued farming here until his death in 2004. In keeping with his wishes, TPL purchased the remaining 95 acres, which will be conveyed to Cobb County and the National Park Service as a public greenspace and historic preserve.



Beutell Property – Scenic Views and Headwaters

Sparkling tributary streams, cascading waterfalls and virgin white pines define the Beutell property, the northernmost privately held land along the headwaters of the Chattahoochee. Located near Helen, this land is home to threatened or endangered species including the red squirrel, pink and yellow ladyslipper, and two varieties of ginseng. TPL worked with the Georgia Wetland Mitigation Trust Fund to preserve more than 100 acres that were subsequently conveyed to the U.S. Forest Service.



Lost Corner Preserve – A Natural Oasis

Less than 2,000 feet from the river, in the heart of suburban Sandy Springs, a 22-acre preserve remains quiet and green, an oasis of natural habitat surrounded by residential development. An anonymous donor lived here for nine decades, learning the name of every tree and plant, cherishing every corner of the land. She contributed more than half the value of the land to ensure its permanent conservation. TPL worked with the City of Sandy Springs, the local Sandy Springs Conservancy and the Georgia Land Conservation Program to acquire the protected land for a public park.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: THE CHATTAHOOCHEE GREENWAY

We are proud of all we have achieved . . . but our work is far from over. We continue working hard to safeguard Georgia's drinking water supply and provide greater access to healthy recreational opportunities along the river.

With Georgia's continued growth and urbanization, combined with the intensified pressures of climate change and drought, protecting the Chattahoochee has never been more important.

CHRIS GRANGER

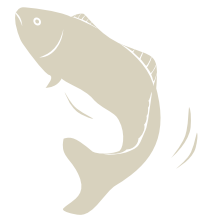


The four goals of the Chattahoochee River Campaign express the multi-faceted relationship Georgians have with our river. The Chattahoochee is the

primary resource for healthy drinking water in Metro Atlanta. It is our largest recreation area for fishing, paddling and hiking, and the scenic view we most enjoy. Most important, the river is the critical foundation of our local ecosystem, supporting a vast array of plants and animals and sustaining our environment and natural resources.

While conservation efforts continue along the entire length of the Chattahoochee, TPL continues to focus on protecting the river's headwaters in north Georgia. Building on our watershed conservation efforts in Carroll and Douglas counties, TPL is targeting a list of high-priority land acquisitions that will protect the river's creeks and tributaries, which are critical to the Chattahoochee's water quality. Our goal is to

protect these sites permanently by acquiring land for public parks, giving people the opportunity to see, touch, and be renewed by the river.



Chattahoochee River Campaign Achievements

Acres conserved: 16,000

Miles of protected shoreline: 76

Funds contributed: \$160 million

Value of land protected: \$250 million

Public and private partners: 30+

Counties with protected riverfront: 11

Cities with protected riverfront: 9

Guidebook: Chattahoochee River Greenway
Planning and Implementation Handbook

STEWARDS AND PARTNERS

JOE AND MONICA COOK



Join the Chattahoochee River Land Protection Effort

More than ever, we depend on private contributions from individuals, families, corporations and foundations to help us protect the river's headwaters and tributaries, create parks and greenways, and make it possible for people to see, touch, experience and enjoy this cherished natural resource.

Preserving the Chattahoochee River is possible only with the continued support of people who care about this magnificent land and water, and who share our commitment to protecting it before it is too late. Please join The Trust for Public Land to help sustain this vital effort. For information, please contact us at 404-873-7306. Donations may be mailed to TPL at 600 W. Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1840, Atlanta GA 30308. Or donate online at www.tpl.org.

Stewards of the Land

More than 20 public agencies have committed to long-term management and stewardship of the lands preserved through the Chattahoochee River protection effort. They include the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, and Georgia Department of Natural Resources, as well as 11 counties, including Carroll, Cobb, Coweta, Douglas, Forsyth, Franklin, Fulton, Gwinnett, Heard, Troup and White counties, and seven municipalities, including Atlanta, Columbus, Douglasville, Duluth, Helen, Roswell and West Point.

Nonprofit Partners

Conservation is a team effort. The Trust for Public Land works in partnership with many local, regional and national nonprofit organizations. Our success in protecting the Chattahoochee River has resulted in large measure from the efforts of groups including the Chattahoochee Nature Center, the Conservation Fund, Georgia Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and Upper Chattahoochee River Keeper.

Philanthropic Support

The success of TPL's land preservation efforts along the Chattahoochee River has been made possible through the extraordinary support of philanthropic institutions. Among them, we especially recognize the generosity of:

- Bradley-Turner Foundation
- Callaway Foundation
- Campbell Foundation
- Cox Foundation
- Goizueta Foundation
- Turner Foundation
- Woodruff Foundation

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