



### Last Week to Register to Volunteer for Athens Rivers Alive



Site sign-ups are underway for the 2020 Rivers Alive event on Saturday, October 24.

**Registration will close at the end of this week, so grab your spot today!** Registration is required to participate, and we will not be hosting any walk-up/day-of registration.

Rivers Alive is Georgia's annual volunteer river clean-up event that encourages civic involvement in the preservation of Georgia's precious water resources. Our waterways provide us with fresh drinking water, important wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities that serve as a respite from our busy day-to-day lives, now more than ever!

This year's event will look slightly different due to COVID-19. We will not be hosting a kick-off event, clean-up sites will be limited to 10 volunteers each, and we will not accommodate any walk-up/day-of volunteer registration. All volunteers must pre-register [<https://www.givepulse.com/group/138114-Rivers-Alive-Athens-Clarke-County#:~:text=Rivers%20Alive%20is%20Georgia's%20annual,of%20Georgia's%20precious%20water%20resources,>] on our GivePulse page, which requires reading and signing-off on the 2020 Rivers Alive COVID-19 Agreement. The agreement outlines safety precautions for the day of the event, including self-reporting temperatures, mandatory masks, social distancing, and more. We are also offering an independent clean-up opportunity [<https://www.givepulse.com/event/206409-Independent-Cleanup-Opportunity-Choose-your-own-adventure%21>] for those who are not comfortable participating in the larger group sites.

On the morning of the event, volunteers will meet directly at their chosen sites and should bring a reusable water bottle, bug spray, wear long pants and close-toed shoes, and come prepared to get wet and dirty.

For more information and to register for a clean-up site, visit [www.accgov.com/riversalive](http://www.accgov.com/riversalive).



### Upper Oconee Science & Policy Summit Recap

The Upper Oconee Watershed Network [<http://uown.org/UOWN-Wordpress/>] (UOWN) and partners held the 3rd Biennial Upper Oconee Science & Policy Summit on September 25. The event was held virtually, and presentations are now available to the public for viewing. Recordings

will be available on YouTube [<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLL7ZS2zp5oaPoSp8zIKO3RTMENhuFiE38>] until October 25. Topics included septic systems, litter, environmental education, and more.

## Reminders About Your Most Recent Stormwater Utility Bill

All property owners in Athens-Clarke County pay a **Stormwater Utility Fee** [<https://www.accgov.com/1862/Stormwater-Utility-Fee>], and all Utility Fee customers should have received a bill in the months of July, August, or September. We encourage customers to take advantage of our **online payment system** [<https://athe-egov.aspgov.com/Click2GovCX/index.html>] (with no extra fees) to pay your bill and/or change a billing address. We are not accepting walk-in payments at this time, so if you would like to make an in-person cash or check payment, please take advantage of the drop boxes at the ACCGov Water Business Office on Hancock Avenue. Check or money order payments can be mailed to:

Athens-Clarke County Stormwater Utility  
P.O. Box 117096  
Atlanta, GA 30368-7096

Please include your Stormwater account number on any written checks.

Billing Staff understand that COVID-19 has taken a financial toll on many Athens-Clarke County residents. If you are having trouble paying your bill and would like to set-up a payment plan, please call Billing Staff at 706-613-3440 and select option "2."

If you have any questions about your account, call the number above or email [stormwater@accgov.com](mailto:stormwater@accgov.com).

## Upcoming Events

### **Athens-Clarke County Vulture Festival** **Monday, October 12 - Saturday, October 17** **Online via Social Media**

Join the ACC Solid Waste Department Recycling Division, Bear Hollow Zoo, and the Oconee Rivers Audubon Society as we celebrate Nature's Cleanup Crew - the Vulture! Throughout the week, the festival will take place virtually on their social media pages and websites, and through pre-registered, self-led programming at the ACC Landfill Outdoor Classroom. There will be fun educational activities, a scavenger hike, birding, and much more! This is a FREE week of programming for the whole family! Visit [accgov.com/vulture](http://www.accgov.com/vulture) [<http://www.accgov.com/vulture>] for more information or contact Recycling at (706) 613-3501 x 8 or [recycle@accgov.com](mailto:recycle@accgov.com) [<mailto:recycle@accgov.com>].

### **Green Thumb Lecture Series: Soil Health** **Wednesday, October 14, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.** **Online via ZOOM**

Join Athens-Clarke County Extension for a free, educational webinar about soil health. Gardeners of all experience levels are welcome. Register in advance at [www.accgov.com/gardening](http://www.accgov.com/gardening) [<http://www.accgov.com/gardening>] to be emailed the Zoom link.

### **2020 Rivers Alive** **Saturday, October 24, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.** **Various Sites throughout Athens**

Athens area residents will wade into local rivers, lakes and streams as part of the continuing statewide campaign to clean and preserve over 70,000 miles of Georgia's rivers and streams. Participants must pre-register for one of the several clean-up sites around Athens. All sites have been approved for social distancing and volunteers must follow COVID precautions. Registration closes October 9th, and spots are limited. Find more information and the link to register at [www.accgov.com/riversalive](http://www.accgov.com/riversalive) [<http://www.accgov.com/riversalive>].

## Trashercise with Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful June through October Anywhere!

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful challenges residents to complete their own "Trashercise" workout (walk, walk/jog, jog, run; trail, road, or wherever!) and keep your neighborhood clean. Bring a bag, some gloves or a grabber, and cleanup your favorite exercise route. Reserve tools and report your cleanup online at [keepathensbeautiful.org](http://www.KeepAthensBeautiful.org) [<http://www.KeepAthensBeautiful.org>] or contact [carlos.pinto@accgov.com](mailto:carlos.pinto@accgov.com) if you'd like to borrow supplies.

### Contact Us


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Department of Transportation and Public Works  
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government  
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### Notice Dumping?

Call the Stormwater Hotline at 706-614-1282 if you see someone dumping into a storm drain or notice flooding due to clogged drains or pipes.

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