

# Athens - Clarke County

## A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OCONEE RIVERS WATER TRAILS FOR THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY OF GEORGIA

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Athens-Clarke County value our natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities afforded by the Middle Oconee, North Oconee, and Oconee Rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens value the Middle Oconee, North Oconee, and Oconee Rivers for water quality and habitat protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Athens-Clarke County will greatly benefit from the recreational and natural experiences provided by water trails; and

**WHEREAS**, providing access to the seventeen (17) miles of Middle Oconee River, eighteen (18) miles of North Oconee River and four and a half (4.5) miles of the Oconee Rivers is a desired goal of Athens-Clarke County; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Athens-Clarke County and visitors from throughout the state of Georgia and the United States have for more than twenty (20) years regularly and openly enjoyed and exercised a right of passage by water craft on the Middle Oconee, North Oconee and Oconee Rivers as it travels through Athens-Clarke County, thereby establishing a public easement of passage on the rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Athens-Clarke County have previously supported activities that promote recreation on the Middle Oconee, North Oconee and Oconee Rivers and have been a partner in a feasibility study for water trails; and

**WHEREAS**, water trails are consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan of Athens-Clarke County for recreational facilities for its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Athens-Clarke County have indicated their support for water trails as part of the Greenway Network Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Athens-Clarke County affirms and supports water trails on the Middle Oconee, North Oconee, and Oconee Rivers to be of value and benefit to the citizens of Athens-Clarke County and its neighboring counties.

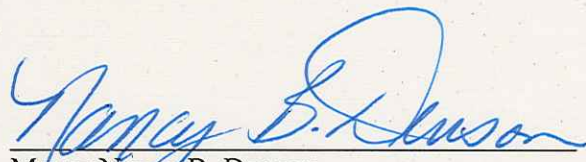
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Commission of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia;

**Section 1:** That the public easement of passage established by more than twenty (20) years of regular and open travel by water craft on the Middle Oconee, North Oconee, and Oconee Rivers in Athens-Clarke County is hereby recognized and accepted by the Athens-Clarke County Mayor and Commission; and

**Section 2:** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption; and

**Section 3:** That we hereby direct each department in the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government to support this Resolution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY** Athens-Clarke County Mayor and Commission, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2014.

  
Mayor Nancy B. Denson  
Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County



Proclamation