



Dear Community Partners,

Georgia River Network (GRN) is excited to announce sponsorship opportunities for our **2020 Paddle Georgia** events, including Paddle Georgia, a 7-day, 100-plus-mile educational canoe and kayak



Paddle Georgia creates love affairs with Georgia's rivers.

adventure set for June 20-27 on the upper Flint River between Thomaston and Montezuma/Oglethorpe; Spring on the Satilla, a two-day paddle trip on coastal Georgia's blackwater beauty; and Fall Float on the Flint, a three-day journey through the limestone and springs of southwest Georgia. In 2019, these canoe/kayak/paddleboard adventures engaged more than 700 people in learning about and protecting Georgia's rivers. The original Paddle Georgia, our seven-day, summer time journey, is considered the largest week-long canoe/kayak camping journey in the country with more than 325 people participating annually. Please consider adding your corporate or

individual voice by supporting GRN's 2020 Paddle Georgia events.

Paddle Georgia is a Great Sponsorship Opportunity for Your Business

- When you choose to support Georgia River Network through the Paddle Georgia program, your business is recognized as a sponsor at all Paddle Georgia events, including recognition on the event website, banners and t-shirts as well as in all media relations material.
- Paddle Georgia receives outstanding statewide earned media coverage and in its 15 years has generated more than 390 newspaper articles, TV and radio stories, YouTube videos, and blog posts including features on Georgia Public Broadcasting's Georgia Outdoors, Georgia Traveler, and GBP Radio; HGTV's "Deserving Design;" and in Southern Living and Georgia Magazine.
- Since its inception in 2005, more than 4600 people have participated in Paddle Georgia. Since 2014, our annual Spring on the Satilla and Fall Float on the Flint trips have attracted more than 1200 participants.
- These events have generated more than \$500,000 to support river protection and water trail development in Georgia.



Take the plunge for river protection and water trails!

- Your business has a captive audience at all three Paddle Georgia events, and our staff can work with you to optimize your exposure before, during and after these events.
- Paddle Georgia events give your employees opportunities to participate in river cleanups and other stewardship activities to keep our rivers clean and curb marine debris.

About Georgia River Network:

As the voice of Georgia’s rivers, we help everyone enjoy, connect with, and advocate for economically vital and clean flowing rivers. Working with local watershed groups around the state, Georgia River Network advocates for state policies that ensure strong protections for Georgia’s rivers and works to improve recreational access to Georgia’s rivers through the establishment of a statewide water trail system.



River R & R.

Paddle Georgia:

Paddle Georgia events serve as a cornerstone for Georgia River Network’s efforts to protect Georgia’s waterways and improve recreational access to those rivers. How? We believe that the best way to create stewards of our rivers is to give people opportunities to establish relationships with those rivers. It’s simple: we get people on our rivers; they fall in love with those rivers; they then take actions to protect those rivers.

Paddle Georgia alumni are now leaders in local watershed protection groups, active Georgia Adopt-A-Stream water monitors, river cleanup organizers, water trail promoters and more. For instance, South Carolina’s citizen water monitoring program was established thanks to the efforts of participants who were inspired by Paddle Georgia. Paddle Georgia also provided initial funding for the establishment of Flint Riverkeeper and provided the impetus for the creation of the Etowah River Water Trail, a 160-mile boating trail that has helped establish 10 new public access points on the river in the last decade.

Since 2005, Paddle Georgia events have impacted 17 river systems in Georgia including the Chattahoochee, Etowah, Ocmulgee, Flint, Coosawattee, Oostanaula, Conasauga, Coosa, Broad, Savannah, Oconee, Ogeechee, Altamaha, Satilla, Yellow, Withlacoochee and Suwannee rivers. This represents more than 1600 miles of Georgia rivers—or about 800,000 paddle strokes for each paddler!



River cleanups

For all the fun and memories that are created on Georgia River Network’s Paddle Georgia events, the journeys are really much more than just paddle trips. Georgia River Network offers scholarships to Georgia educators who receive environmental education curriculum training during the seven-day summer journey, partners with other groups to enable underserved youth to participate annually and sponsors a one-day river cleanup. Through a partnership with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Adopt-A-Stream program, all participants have the opportunity to become certified citizen water monitors during our Paddle Georgia journeys.

Additionally, during each Paddle Georgia event, we provide opportunities for participants to learn about issues impacting our rivers through guest speakers, tours of water and wastewater treatment plants, participation in a one day river clean-up, visits to industrial facilities and programs about cultural and natural history surrounding the river.

As many participants have described it, Paddle Georgia is the equivalent of summer camp for adults and families. Paddlers range in age from 2 to 82 and include many multi-generational groups. It is a truly unique family-oriented, river outreach program.

Sign up now:

We are offering many flexible sponsorship options provided in the enclosed materials. Please use the enclosed reply form to take advantage of this sponsorship opportunity. Your generosity will allow GRN to continue hosting our paddling events while supporting our statewide, year-round protection and restoration efforts and water trail development for all of Georgia's rivers. Additionally, because Georgia River Network is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, your monetary and in-kind donations are tax deductible.



Water monitoring and education.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at dana@garivers.org or at 706-549-4508.

Sincerely,

Rena Stricker, Executive Director

Paddle Georgia 2019 Sponsors

Hennessy Land Rover • Cedar Creek Park and Outdoor Center • CYA Insurance Agency
Oglethorpe Power • Cary S. Baxter & Harbin, LLC • R. Terry Pate CPA
China Clay Producers Association • Colonial Pipeline • Outside World Outfitters
Brown and Caldwell • Nestle-Purina • Len Foote Hike Inn • The Rain Barrel Depot • Vibe Kayaks
Alston & Bird • Georgia Power Company • Fruit of the Loom • Jerzees
Patagonia • Ryland Environmental • Chaparral Boats • Maxxis • Stream Techs
Siegel Insurance/Auto Owner's Insurance • REI • Chattahoochee Paddle Company
Georgia Kayak Fishing • EarthShare Georgia • Six Flags Over Georgia • Odo-Ban

2019 Partners

American Canoe Association • Café Campesino • WWALS Watershed Coalition
Suwannee Riverkeeper • Georgia Canoeing Association • Georgia Adopt-A-Stream • Project WET

Georgia River Network Paddle Georgia 2020 Events

Paddle Georgia 2020 June 20-27 on the Flint River,

Spring on the Satilla April 4-5, Fall Float on the Flint Oct. 10-12

For more information contact Dana Skelton at dana@garivers.org or 706-549-4508

Paddle Georgia 2020 Sponsorship Levels

\$20,000 Presenting Sponsor

- Logo appears first and you receive top billing as presenting sponsor in all promotional materials, website and banners at the event, in news releases and the event t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website with a link to your website
- Opportunity to make a presentation at a Paddle Georgia campsite during a nightly program
- Exhibit space at Paddle Georgia campsites and placement of promotional item in registration packets
- 6 complimentary registrations to participate in Paddle Georgia Lite or the full seven-day adventure
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$10,000 Class V Sponsor

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website with a link to your website
- Opportunity to make a presentation at a Paddle Georgia campsite during a nightly program
- Exhibit space at Paddle Georgia campsites and placement of promotional item in registration packets
- 5 complimentary registrations to participate in Paddle Georgia Lite or the full seven-day adventure
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$5,000 Class IV Sponsor

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website with a link to your website
- Exhibit space at Paddle Georgia campsites and placement of promotional item in registration packets
- 4 complimentary registrations to participate in Paddle Georgia Lite or the full seven-day adventure
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$2,500 Class III Sponsor

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website with a link to your website
- Placement of promotional item in registration packets
- 2 complimentary registrations to participate in Paddle Georgia Lite or the full seven-day adventure
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$1,000 Class II Sponsor

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website with a link to your website
- Placement of promotional item in registration packets
- 1 complimentary registration
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$500 Class I Sponsor

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition on GRN's website
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

\$250 Supporting Sponsor/In Kind Donors

- Logo appears on Paddle Georgia website, banners, news releases and on the t-shirt
- Recognition in GRN's *Confluence e-newsletter* and printed *Confluence newsletter*

**Paddle Georgia 2020
SPONSOR REPLY FORM**

Company/Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Sponsor Name – as you would like it to appear on printed materials

Please print: _____

Please email your logo to dana@garivers.org in .jpg or .tif format, 300dpi.

We will sponsor at the following level:

- Presenting Sponsor \$20,000 (6 Complimentary Registrations)
- Class V Sponsor \$10,000 (5 Complimentary Registrations)
- Class IV \$5,000 (4 Complimentary Registrations)
- Class III Sponsor \$2,500 (2 Complimentary Registrations)
- Class II Sponsor \$1,000 (1 Complimentary Registration)
- Class I Sponsor \$500
- Supporting Sponsor \$250
- We will provide food/beverage/merchandise donations: _____
- We will provide give away items: _____

Guest Names participating in Paddle Georgia Lite or full week (*if applicable*): (or email names to dana@garivers.org)

Please print: _____

Payment Type: Check (payable to Georgia River Network) | Visa | MasterCard

Payment Amount: \$_____

If paying by credit card:

Card Number: _____

Security Code (3-4 Digit Code) _____ Expiration date: _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Printed Name as on card: _____ Authorized signature: _____

Please complete this form and return to: Georgia River Network, Attn: Dana Skelton
126 South Milledge Avenue, Suite E3, Athens, GA 30605 or fax form to 706-549-7791 or email to
dana@garivers.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!