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## Citizens of Georgia Power Volunteers Clean Up South River



*Georgia Power volunteers get to work picking up trash and litter along the banks of the South River.*

**STONECREST, Ga.** – On Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, volunteers from Citizens of Georgia Power’s Metro East Chapter, a company volunteer and community engagement group, joined the South River Watershed Alliance and the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance for a river cleanup starting at Panola Shoals Trailhead in Stonecrest. Volunteers packed out trash throughout the morning, leaving the river along the trailhead cleaner than when they found it. The June 26<sup>th</sup> cleanup was originally planned for Earth Day, when inclement weather made the event impossible. Volunteers removed over 240lbs of trash on Saturday, a large portion of which was Styrofoam.

“At Georgia Power, we live by the mantra of being ‘a citizen wherever we serve,’ and believe it is our duty to serve our communities and leave them better than we found them,” said ChiQuita George,

environmental specialist and first vice president with the Citizens of Georgia Power Metro East chapter. “We also put a special focus on keeping our state’s rivers, lakes and streams clean for families to enjoy and for Georgia’s wildlife to thrive. Georgia is our home too and we look forward to serving our customers and neighbors for years to come.”

“The South River is finally on the map,” said Jackie Echols, Board President of the South River Watershed Alliance, describing the upsurge in community interest in the river. “It has been great to watch the phenomenal growth in support over the past 10 years.”

The South River was recently placed on [American Rivers’ Most Endangered Rivers](#) list due to chronic problems with pollution. Events like the Citizens of Georgia Power river cleanup make progress towards a cleaner river. Learn more and look out for future volunteer opportunities at [southriverga.org](http://southriverga.org).



*Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance Executive Director Revonda Cosby introduces the Georgia Power volunteers to the South River and its location in the National Heritage Area.*

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*South River Watershed Alliance Board President Jackie Echols and City of Stonecrest Director of Parks and Recreation Brandon Riley greet the volunteers.*

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*Panola Shoals on the South River. Volunteers cleaned banks and removed litter on Saturday.*

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### **About the Arabia Alliance**

The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance is dedicated to protecting, connecting and sharing the powerful history, rich culture and engaging landscapes of the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (AMNHA) for the benefit and enjoyment of all. The staff and volunteer board of the Arabia Alliance work with partners across the AMNHA to ensure that everyone can benefit from the cultural and natural resources of the National Heritage Area. For more information, visit [www.arabiaalliance.org](http://www.arabiaalliance.org).