



Jenn Collins
Director, Outreach & Education
Chattahoochee RiverWarden
Chair, 2014 Help the Hooch
PO Box 985
Columbus, GA 31902
706.649.2326
criverwarden2@gmail.com
September 22, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20th annual Help the Hooch river cleanup activities scheduled

Residents of Columbus, Phenix City, and Fort Benning are invited to participate in the 20th annual Help the Hooch river cleanup on Saturday, October 4 from 8 until 11 a.m. Help the Hooch is the Southeast's largest river cleanup, with approximately 10,000 volunteers each year.

Local schools will conduct their cleanups on Friday, October 3, as will Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center and CCG Parks and Recreation facilities.

Volunteers can choose from a list of streams, lakes and public parks, or select a private property to clean. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.

Following the cleanup on Saturday, October 4, a Watershed Festival will be held at Golden Park from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., as a way to say thank you to our volunteers. There will be free lunch and T-shirts for registered participants (while supplies last), and lots of educational water activities too.

To register for either cleanup day, visit:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oPpAm1OzRiHTDrKtFcRg-50zw13Mhbg2spFGyzRR0Dk/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Also on Saturday, October 4, CCG Public Works will hold its Community-wide Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Equipment Recycling Project from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the old recycling center, #25 22nd Avenue (off Victory Drive across from Dolly Madison).

Common household hazardous waste that will be collected:

- Paint and solvents: latex paint, oil based paint, furniture strippers, paint thinners, etc.
- Lawn care chemicals: fertilizers, pesticides, pool chemicals, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, etc.
- Cleaning products: bleach or products containing bleach, ammonia or ammonia-based products, all-purpose cleaners, furniture polish, spot removers, scouring powder, oven cleaner, bath cleaners, bug spray, etc.

- Automotive products: motor oil, oil filters, gasoline, anti-freeze, lubricants, car batteries, brake fluid, transmission fluid, car wax, metal polish, etc.
- Electronic equipment: computers, printers, fax machines, copiers, and consumer electronics (NO televisions)

To honor Gloria Weston-Smart, Executive Director of Keep Columbus Beautiful, and her recent journey with breast cancer, the color for this year's Help the Hooch T-shirts will be "safety pink". And on Friday, October 3rd, the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition (WCGCC) and Help the Hooch are teaming up to present "Help the Hooch with Your Pink Pooch" for breast cancer and water quality awareness. The fun starts at 5 p.m. at CSU's Woodruff Park, as part of the Paint the Town Pink celebration. All donations will benefit WCGCC, a 501(c)3 organization whose vision is to reduce the burden of cancer in our community with neighbors helping neighbors.

Enter your pooch in the Best Dressed in Pink, Best Trick, or Look-a-like competitions. Five finalists from each area will go on to compete for Best Pooch — prizes will be awarded for each competition as well as first, second and third place trophies for Best Pooch.

For more information about any of these activities, contact Keep Columbus Beautiful at (706) 653-4008 or follow Help the Hooch on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Help-the-Hooch/105960092318>