

Headwaters Office

104 Washington St. SE, Gainesville, GA 30501

678-696-8866

www.chattahoochee.org

November 19, 2024

Dear Bill Nash and Hall County Board of Commissioners,

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper (CRK) is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and conservation of the Chattahoochee River – including its lakes, tributaries, and watershed.

We are proud to host numerous land-based and water-based cleanups throughout the year within the Hall County community. These cleanups bring together hundreds of volunteers each year at numerous access points along the Chattahoochee River and Lake Lanier to clean our waterways.

With continued population growth and visitation to our natural resources, we receive many reports of trash issues in and around Lake Lanier. We aim to host a cleanup in Hall County on alternate months throughout the year. While we co-host cleanups with Keep Hall Beautiful and Lake Lanier Association, most of our cleanups are achieved with CRK volunteers.

We plan to host approximately 8 cleanups next year – 7 of which will be in Hall County. Each cleanup typically collects 0.5-2 tons of trash. However, our annual Sweep the Hooch event (March 22, 2025) typically brings in 15-20 tons of trash from the Lake Lanier watershed! Trash collected may also include large plastic dock floats that have not been appropriately disposed of in addition to other smaller items, such as plastic bottles, unencapsulated Styrofoam, and aluminum cans.

We are seeking your support to help cover the tipping fees for up to 25 tons of trash at the Hall County Landfill <u>and</u> for Hall County to provide dumpsters necessary for our annual Sweep the Hooch event to help properly dispose of encapsulated dock floats in 2025.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting our efforts! If you would like to learn more about our upcoming events, please visit our website at https://chattahoochee.org/events/. Feel free to contact me directly if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Becca Risser

Headwaters Watershed Specialist Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

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