

“FORWARD CASTING” Important Dates – See you there!

July 13 & 14 (Tues & Wed) Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of the Chattooga River (this year it is upstream of Burrell's Ford) Meet both mornings at 8:30 AM at Burrell's Ford Bridge. For more details, see the message below from Jeff “Dredger” Durniak. Your help is really needed to carry equipment in/out and to net fish...strong backs and sure feet. This is a big job and provides valuable information on this incredible fishery. Bring your waders, a full water bottle & your lunch on THE RIVER (maybe a rain jacket).

- Come help TU with its mission.
- Come learn about THE RIVER...and maybe a place to fish.
- Come meet other like-minded conservationists who practice what they preach.
- Come campout on Tuesday night, 7/13. TU volunteers can camp FREE of charge at the USFS Cherry Hill Campground (SC) (running water, shower & flush toilet)
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/sumter/recreation/CherryHillRecreationArea.php>. Just take a fee envelope and write "TU VOL" on the envelope and place it in the windshield. Everyone will be responsible for his or her own food.
- Come be part of something big!!

MESSAGE from Jeff Durniak - Regional Fisheries Supervisor, GA Wildlife Resources Division

The river sampling plan we had set in our annual (Chattooga Coalition) planning meeting was July 13 - Ellicott Rock (we'll take the long walk while fresh...) July 14 - Spoon Auger (Burrell's Ford)

I suggest we meet at the Burrell's Ford Bridge each day at 0830, organize, get volunteer forms signed, hike in, and, conditions permitting, get a three-pass quantitative sample, hopefully before any afternoon thunderstorms hit. "Conditions permitting" equals a gauge height of 1.6 or less on the Chattooga River at Clayton's USGS gauge

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/sc/nwis/uv/?site_no=02177000&agency_cd=USGS

The rain dates are Sept 22 and 23.

Physically fit TU volunteers are always welcome and appreciated. Your folks often play a key role in helping the natural resource professionals to carry in equipment, tote buckets of fish after capture, assist with data collection, and photograph the activity. Those extra hands (especially with carrying equipment in and out) often make a physically demanding couple of days that much easier for all natural resource professionals involved. Prospective volunteers just need to be honest with themselves about their physical condition so that they will indeed enjoy the day's activities and many more years on the river.

Carpools are encouraged in order to minimize congestion at the public parking area.

Prospective vols with questions can contact either Leon Brotherton (706-947-3005, ext 110) or me on this side of the river, or Dan Rankin (864-654-6346, ext 12) for the South Carolina side. Thanks for your consideration.