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Upper Etowah River Alliance
Rt. 2 Box 104
Eastanollee, GA 30538
Visit us at www.etowahriver.org

Thank You!



At a recent Adopt A Stream workshop, Duncan Cottrell showed participants how to visually assess a stream's health.

New Board Members Elected

At it's March meeting, the Upper Etowah River Alliance elected new executive board members.

Now serving at Chairman will be Diane Minick. Diane has volunteered for the Alliance for three years and brings a wealth of experience to this position.

She was a science teacher for 30 years, concentrating on high school biology, environmental and marine sciences. She received the Environmental Educators Professional Development Award for Georgia.

She now owns her own company, Environmental Impact Assessment, which helps homeowners, builders, developers and retail owners solve stormwater problems using raingardens and other forms of bioretention.

Joining Diane are Kevin Flanagan, serving as secretary and Stan Hall in the At-Large position. Former chair, Doris Cook will continue to serve on the executive board in an At-Large position.

Stan Barnett and Ilona Sanders will continue to serve in their positions as Treasurer and Vice-chair.

Welcome to All!

What's Happening with the Alliance

- The web site has undergone some major revisions and will continue to be updated frequently. Come visit us at www.etowahriver.org!
- An Annual Meeting has been scheduled for October 5, 2004. More details will follow.
- The Adopt-A-Stream program will hold the following workshops:
 - July 17 – Getting Started Workshop
 - July 24 – Chemical Monitoring
 - Aug. 7 – Biological MonitoringFor information, contact Lori Forrester (770) 591-7156
- Our next newsletter will outline new membership guidelines. Watch for it in the Summer!

Etowah



MEMBER NEWS

Spring
2004

Alliance Finishes Xeriscape Project at Pickens Community Thrift Store

Shopping and conservation don't usually go together, but at one Pickens County store, the two make a good team.

The Community Thrift Store on Samaritan Drive not only boosts bargains, but also a special landscape design which helps reduce water consumption and protects the environment. The project was funded by a 319 Grant administered by the Alliance. (For more on the 319 Grant, see article below.)

Xeriscape (pronounced zeri-scape) uses native plants to minimize the amount of water needed to keep the plants living. In addition, this kind of design reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides because the native plants are adapted to Georgia's rainfall patterns and soils. This gives them a natural resistance to bugs and disease.

Conservation projects are often stereotyped as dull and drab; however, the project at the Thrift Store proves otherwise. American Beauty Berry, Swamp Sunflower, and Purple Coneflower are just some of the beautiful flowering plants that will give the project long-lasting attractiveness. To help the store's volunteer's maintain the site, a drip irrigation system has been installed.

So next time you're in Pickens County, go by the Thrift Store, pick up some bargains and check out the landscaping!



What's a 319 Grant? This grant comes from the Environmental Protection Agency under Provision 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. The federal government awards these grants to state and local public agencies who often partner with nonprofit organizations to support non-point source management programs

The Upper Etowah River Alliance was awarded a 319 grant in 1999. It partially funds programs that teach people about non-point source pollution. In addition, it helps pay for projects that demonstrate how landowners can reduce their own non-point source pollution. So far, the Alliance has finished 14 of these Best Management Practices.

A publication of the Upper Etowah River Alliance

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