

Saturday, June 24

Dawson Do-si-do

Etowah Water and Sewer Authority (Dawsonville) to Nicholson Rd. (Forsyth County)

Camping: Dawson County High School

Day 1 of Paddle Georgia takes paddlers on a 15-mile meander through Dawson State Forest, a 10,000 acre tract of undisturbed land whose waters hosts some of the Etowah's federally protected fish species—the Etowah, Cherokee and Amber darters.

Paddlers will have the chance to visit a breathtaking riverside waterfall and venture up Shoal and Amicalola creeks. The banging from the Riverbend Gun Club will alarm paddlers, but fret not—the firing ranges all face away from the river.