

## Paddle Georgia – Benefitting Local River Protection Efforts

Each year Paddle Georgia participants raise money from friends and family in Georgia River Network's Paddle Georgia Canoe-a-Thon. Over the history of Paddle Georgia, over \$110,000 has been raised by the Canoe-A-Thon alone. Georgia River Network shares a portion of the proceeds of the Canoe-A-Thon and Paddle Georgia registration fees to support local river group(s) in addressing issues witnessed by paddlers during the journey. Projects implemented by groups with these funds include river patrols, development of water trails, monitoring of rivers and streams, and river protection work.

### 2010 Beneficiaries



**Savannah Riverkeeper** used the grant monies to investigate and stop pollution of the Broad River.

**Broad River Watershed Association** used their funds to start a water trail on the Broad River, including partnering with local communities and installing kiosks to provide the public with information about the Broad River and the Water Trail. They are also conducting water monitoring and investigating the sources of pollution.



### 2011 Beneficiaries



**Lake Oconee Water Watch** is continuing their work of protecting and cleaning up trash and litter around Lake Oconee.

**Oconee River Project of the Altamaha Riverkeeper** is advocating for water conservation and efficiency to support healthy river flows, performing community outreach following the chemical spill into Trail Creek in the summer of 2010, and partnering with the Upper Oconee Watershed Network to create a water trail on the North Oconee River.

**Upper Oconee Watershed Network** is developing partnerships for the first stage of a water trail on the North Oconee River.

