



East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust

Newsletter – Summer 2009

Statement from the East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust President

The EMFLT board has been very pleased with the support and encouragement we have received from so many individuals and groups concerning our efforts to conserve protect and promote our great natural resources in East Mississippi. A good example of this is the 60+ volunteers we had for the June 19 Chunky River clean up. It was a fun and worthwhile event and a great indicator of the willingness of residents to get involved. A few of our projects are highlighted in this newsletter; however, an occasional visit to our web page will keep you current on all the projects we are working on, as well as those being planned.

We have all heard the old Native American proverb that says “we do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.” This newsletter has reached you because you have expressed an interest in helping protect what is only borrowed. I thank you for that, but remember we also need your financial support as well as your encouragement. Our projects are accomplished through dedicated volunteers and are funded through membership dues, donations, or grants. If you are not currently a member of the East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust, please consider becoming one today. We have made it easy to join on line at www.emflt.org , or you may send a check to EMFLT, P. O. Box 1608, Meridian, MS 39302.

The different categories of memberships are also posted on line, or feel free to call me at #601 484 2564 with any questions you may have. Thank you again for your support, and we would love your suggestions or comments. — Tommy Vincent, President



Chunky-Okatibbee Watershed Project

Reflecting back over the three-year Chunky-Okatibbee Watershed Project, it is clear that the partnerships forged during this process has accounted for the successful accomplishments achieved.

Partnering with the MS Department of Environmental Quality not only provided the funding to begin this vital process to improve water quality, but the agency provided support and guidance at every turn.

Partnering with Mississippi Public Broadcasting Network to produce a beautiful watershed video viewed by thousands has led to increased public awareness of the importance of watershed management.



Partnering with United States Geological Service to conduct water quality sampling and biological/habitat monitoring has helped establish a baseline of data and paint a more complete picture of water quality in this watershed.

Partnering with the Natural Resources Conservation Service has led to the construction of chicken litter management sheds at six chicken farming locations, thus reducing agricultural run-off and non-point source pollution into our waterbodies.

By all standards of measurements, the East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust and its watershed partners are proud of the tasks accomplished as a result of the Chunky-Okatibbee Watershed Project and trust these efforts have established the groundwork for a sustainable, long-term commitment to the health of our environmental resources in the East Mississippi region.

River Clean-up Event—Huge Success

The EMFLT sponsored their annual river clean project on Friday, June 19, 2009. The event brought more than sixty volunteers together including the representatives from the Navy, the Dusty Club, the Boy Scouts, ECCC, local businesses, the EMFLT board, and the general public. Although the day was hot and the river low, the amount of litter collected off the waterway and the public landings was tremendous. The primary goal of our cleanup project is to educate the community regarding water quality and the importance of keeping our waterbodies free of litter and debris.



After the clean-up event, Boyette's Fish Camp provided a wonderful fish dinner for all the hungry participants.

In addition to the litter clean-up and the fine food, new wooden education boards have been placed at four public landings: Tatum Landing, Boyette's Bridge, Point Landing, and Stuckey's Bridge Landing. They are intended to provide information about the river, as well as encourage the users to be good stewards of the river.



East Mississippi Foothills Land Trust
 Post Office Box 1608
 Meridian, MS 39302

Current List of the Board of Directors (alphabetical order):

George Arrington	Gary Barber	Bill Boutwell
Andrew Covington	Tony Dean	Tommy Dulaney
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