

# Raccoon Creek Science Symposium

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, January 26

*All morning events will be in the Carmichael Student Center Activity Room B*

*Symposium Check-in will be at a table outside Activity Room B (8:00 – 8:45)*

*Welcome (8:45 – 9:00)*

- Don McGarey, Interim Vice-President for Research, Kennesaw State University (KSU)
- David Carmichael, Chairman, Paulding County Board of Commissioners (PCO)
- Jared Teustch, Director of Conservation, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Brett Albanese, Program Director, Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GADNR)

*Morning Session 1 - Background (9:00 – 10:00)*

- Bill Ensign (KSU)- Natural and Cultural History of the Raccoon Creek Watershed
- Katie Owens (TNC) - The Raccoon Creek Partnership: Background
- Brent Womack (GADNR) - DNR Management in Paulding and Sheffield Wildlife Management Areas

*Coffee Break (10:00-10:15)*

*Morning Session 2 - Past, current, and future project summaries (10:15 – 11:45)*

- Restoration Reach Assessment, Alex Lamle (TNC)
- Raccoon Creek Science at Paulding High School, Mark and Tricia Pedersen (PCO School System)
- Bat Monitoring, Thomas McElroy (KSU Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology [EEOB])
- Trends in Raccoon Creek Fish Assemblages, Bill Ensign (KSU EEOB)
- Effects of Urbanization on Trophic Dynamics in Stream Communities, Troy Mutchler (KSU EEOB)
- Paulding and Sheffield WMA Vascular Plant Inventory, Heather Sutton (KSU EEOB)
- Assessing Changes in Forest Composition and Growth in the Paulding and Sheffield WMA, Matt Weand (KSU EEOB)
- Development of Low-cost Streamflow Gauges for Continuous Flow Monitoring, Kevin Stokes (KSU Physics)
- Herptile Monitoring in Paulding and Sheffield WMA, Miranda Gulsby (KSU Graduate Program in Integrative Biology)

### *Morning Wrap-up (11:45-12:00)*

- Guidance for Afternoon Break-out Sessions
- Identification of Facilitators

### *Catered Lunch (12:00 – 1:15)*

*Afternoon Session – Both Session 1 and Session 2 will be held in the Clendenin Building (CL) in the Science Complex*

### *Session 1 (1:15 – 2:15) – Interest identification and brainstorming*

- Integrating, Research, Education, and Citizen Science (CL 1008)
- Use of the Raccoon Creek Watershed as a “Control” for the Effects of Urbanization (CL 1008)
- Research on Terrestrial Flora (CL 1009)
- Research on Terrestrial Fauna (CL 1009)
- Research on Aquatic Systems (CL 1010)
- Developing a Raccoon Creek Watershed Research Consortium (CL 1010)

### *Break (2:15 – 2:30)*

### *Session 2 (2:30 - 3:30) – Action plan development*

*Break, return to Carmichael Student Center Activity Room B (3:30 – 3:45)*

### *Reporting Session (3:45 – 4:15)*

### *Concluding Remarks (4:15 – 4:30)*

## **Saturday, January 27**

### *Field Excursions*

9:00 - Field trip attendees meet either outside of Clendenin Building on KSU campus or at Paulding County Courthouse, board buses for trip out to Raccoon Creek staging area.

10:00 – Arrive at staging area, divide into two groups, board “field-worthy” vehicles to locations.

12:00 – Return to staging area, switch groups, board “field-worthy” vehicles to travel to locations.

2:00 – Return to staging area, board buses for trip back to either KSU campus or Courthouse.

Those planning to attend the Saturday Field Excursions should bring their own lunches and water. They should also wear clothing and footwear suitable for walking around in the woods.

## **Directions to Kennesaw State University – Kennesaw Campus**

### *Directions from the South via I-75*

If coming northbound on I-75, take the Chastain Road exit (number 271) and turn left. Go to the second light and turn right onto Frey Road. Take a left at the first light onto Hopkins Drive and the East Parking Deck will be straight ahead. You can park anywhere in the East Deck with the exception of spots marked Faculty/Staff.

### *Directions from the North via I-75*

If coming southbound on I-75, take the Chastain Road exit (number 271) and continue to bear right at the top of the ramp. This will allow you to bear directly onto Frey Road. Take a left at the first light onto Hopkins Drive and the East Parking Deck will be straight ahead. You can park anywhere in the East Deck with the exception of spots marked Faculty/Staff.

### *Address for those using GPS Navigation Systems*

For those of you relying on the voice coming from your I-phone, Android device, or automobile, the address for the parking deck is 305 Hopkins Drive NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

### *Directions to the Cunningham Student Center – Activity Room B*

Once you have parked, exit through the north end of the parking deck and walk north along the plaza between the Convocation Center and the Siegel Student Activity Center. Once you have passed the Siegel Center, turn left (west) on Cobb and follow the sidewalk straight ahead to the Carmichael Student Center. Our morning session is in Student Activity Room B on the 1st floor of the Student Center. We will have a registration desk set up outside the room.