

Upstate Advocate

THE UPSTATE'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE

THE VALUE OF WATER

ON (& OFF) THE CLOCK:

Upstate Forever staff at work and play



Engagement Coordinator Ginger Goldsmith poses with "Flat Brad" at the ForeverGreen Luncheon



Communications Director Sally Boman & husband Travis Leitko tubing on the Saluda



Database Coordinator Ava Thacker welcomed a new granddaughter, Karyiah Thacker, in January



Shelley Robbins, Energy & State Policy Director, looks sharp at the wedding of her daughter India



Protecting Land & Water | Advocacy | Balanced Growth

507 Pettigru Street, Greenville, SC 29601 | (864) 250-0500
201 E. Broad Street, Suite 1C, Spartanburg, SC 29306 | (864) 327-0090

www.upstateforever.org



Mission

Upstate Forever is a conservation organization that protects critical lands, waters, and the unique character of the Upstate of South Carolina.

Vision

To conserve our land and water resources, resulting in an environmentally healthy and economically prosperous region, with a high quality of life now and for future generations.

Board of Directors

Erwin Maddrey, <i>Chair</i>	Charles Dalton	Joe James	Chris Richardson
Mike Baur, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Mary Haque	Emelyn Jones	Gaye Sprague
Tom Kester, <i>Treasurer</i>	Marianna Black Habisreutinger	John Keith	Mark Taylor
Glenn Hilliard, <i>Secretary</i>	Margaret Harrison	Joe Lesesne	Pamela Vaughn
	Allen Jacoby	Hank McCullough	Neal Workman
		Charles Mickel	

Staff

Sherry Barrett <i>Land Policy Manager</i>	Joy Dickerson <i>Assistant Financial Director</i>	Kerry Newberry <i>Office Manager / Executive Assistant</i>	Caitlyn Smith <i>Land Conservation Specialist</i>
Sally Boman <i>Communications Director</i>	Ginger Goldsmith <i>Engagement & Events Coordinator</i>	Peg O'Donoghue <i>Financial Director</i>	Christina Sprecher <i>Land Stewardship Manager</i>
Drew Brittain <i>Land Conservation Specialist</i>	Lisa Scott Hallo <i>Land Policy Director</i>	Scott Park <i>Glenn Hilliard Director of Land Conservation</i>	Chris Starker <i>Land Conservation Manager</i>
Megan Burton <i>Communications Coordinator</i>	Erika Hollis <i>Clean Water Director</i>	Shelley Robbins <i>Energy & State Policy Director</i>	Ava Thacker <i>Gifts Processing & Database Coordinator</i>
Megan Chase <i>Clean Water Advocate</i>	Katie Hottel <i>GIS Coordinator</i>	Dorothy Signal <i>Land Stewardship Associate</i>	Brad Wyche <i>Founder & Senior Advisor</i>
Andrea Cooper <i>Executive Director</i>	Aldon Knight <i>Director of Development & Community Relations</i>		

Advisory Council

Paul Agnew	Allen Creighton	Russell Harris	Patrick McMillan	Joan Peters
Amanda Bauknight	Dianne Culbertson	Gina Hartness	Marshall Meadors	Sue Priester
Bob Becker	Mike Daniel	Brice Hipp	Mary Miller	Dick Riley
Jean Blair	Bob Erwin	Wes Hulsey	Scott Montgomery	Susan Riordan
Juan Brown	John Frampton	John Knott	Betty Montgomery	Ted Shehan
Dan Burden	Vince Graham	John Lane	Nell Newman	David Shi
Signe Cann	Jimmy Grantham	Drew Lanham	Mike Nicklas	Gus Speth
Dick Carr	John Hagins	Patti McAbee	Carlton Owen	Brad Wyche
Wes Cooler	Dave Hargett	Don McClure	Leon Patterson	Kris Yon

FROM THE DIRECTOR

In unprecedented times, some things remain constant.

There is so much uncertainty right now in the Upstate, across the country, and around the world. As I write this letter, our Greenville and Spartanburg offices are closed while Upstate Forever staff work from home to help protect the health of each other, our families, and our communities. You can read more about our response to COVID-19 at upstateforever.org/at-home.

However, you can rest assured our team is still working hard to achieve our mission. Thanks to your support, we are still working to protect the Upstate's land and water resources. We are still advocating for smart growth, energy, and conservation policies at the local and state levels, and we are still dedicated to protecting what makes our region so special.

In this issue of the *Upstate Advocate*, you'll find perspectives on the most fundamental of topics, and one that drives Upstate Forever's conservation and advocacy work: water. We put together the majority of this issue prior to the COVID-19 situation, but decided to proceed with publication because even during times of change and uncertainty, our need for clean and readily available water is a constant.

With rising population and development in our region, it will only become more of a challenge to safeguard our water. That's why Upstate Forever is working with landowners, utilities, developers, and other local leaders to protect critical land for water quality, such as headwater streams and watershed lands. While collaborative solutions are our first preference, we also don't shy away from taking legal action to ensure that bad actors are held accountable when they damage our waterways. *See page 16 for some of our water advocacy efforts.*

I hope this newsletter helps you think about what clean water means to your own life. If you're able, please take five minutes to fill out our online survey at upstateforever.org/VOW-survey and give us your thoughts on the value of water. It will help our Clean Water team, and you'll be entered to win some great prizes! *See page 15 for details.*

Upstate Forever's necessary and time-sensitive work must continue even during the current health crisis. Your ongoing support remains essential to these local conservation efforts, and we thank you for being part of the solution. Upstate South Carolina's special character comes not only from natural beauty, but also from a legacy of collaboration, innovation, and generosity of spirit. We will get through this tough time together and emerge stronger than ever before.

From my family to yours, take care of yourselves and be well.



Andrea Cooper, Executive Director



ON (& OFF) THE CLOCK:

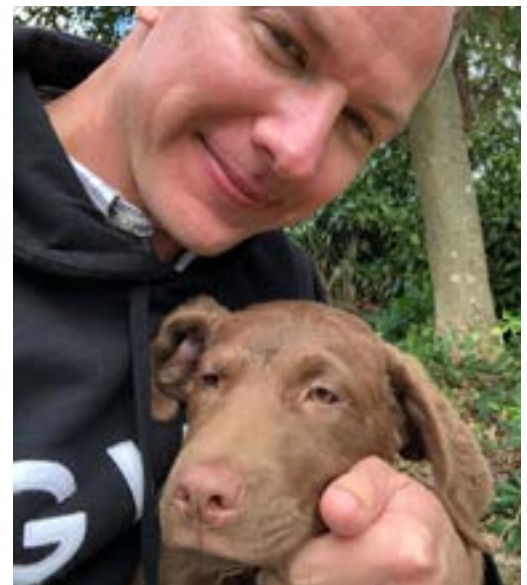
Upstate Forever staff at work and play



Director Andrea Cooper with her team from the Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative last December



Clean Water Advocate Megan Chase plants trees at a TreesUpstate / Save Our Saluda workday



Land Conservation Director Scott Park with Allove, his Chesapeake Bay Retriever puppy

The **2020 ForeverGreen Awards Luncheon** was the biggest yet, with a capacity crowd of nearly 500 — in fact, tickets sold out several weeks in advance! In addition to the awards program, this year’s luncheon featured a conservation update from Raleigh West, Executive Director of the newly revitalized South Carolina Conservation Bank, and a celebration honoring Brad Wyche, Upstate Forever’s founder and senior advisor. Thanks to all who contributed to a successful event, and be on the lookout for updates about next year’s luncheon. PHOTOS BY JACK ROBERT PHOTOGRAPHY

2020 Award Recipients



The 2020 ForeverGreen Award recipients (left to right):
Tom Kester, Rep. Bill Sandifer, Norman Pulliam

THE MARJORIE E. SCHMIDT STEWARDSHIP AWARD

Tom Kester was honored for his faithful ongoing support of Upstate Forever and other local conservation efforts.

THE TOMMY WYCHE LAND CONSERVATION CHAMPION

Norman Pulliam was recognized for his visionary leadership as South Carolina Department of Natural Resources board chair.

PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR

Rep. Bill Sandifer received an award for his game-changing role in passing the Energy Freedom Act.

Learn more about this year’s ForeverGreen Award recipients at upstateforever.org/blog/forevergreen-luncheon and watch the awardee videos at our YouTube channel **UpstateForever**.



Thank you to our 2020
ForeverGreen sponsors!

JOHN & PRIS
HAGINS

RonaldBlueTrust™
Wisdom for Wealth. For Life.

EMERALD SPONSORS

SPRUCE SPONSORS



CEDAR SPONSORS





See more ForeverGreen Luncheon photos on Upstate Forever's Facebook page

Laura Townes, an easement owner with a conservation focus

LAURA C. TOWNES

July 15, 1926 - February 11, 2020

Laura Townes was originally from Connecticut, but met her late husband George Franklin, a Greenville native, at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania. The two moved back to the Upstate, making their home in Pickens almost 50 years ago.

Both George and Laura were avid lovers of the outdoors and particularly enjoyed quiet moments observing birds. While George was a member of the Wilson Ornithological Society, the Society for the Study of Reptiles and Amphibians, and the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Laura complemented that as an English teacher, an astronomer, a gardener, and through her support of many local non-profits including Upstate Forever, The

Nature Conservancy, the League of Women Voters, the Humane Society, and Bat Conservation International.

Upstate Forever Founder and Senior Advisor Brad Wyche remembers Laura as “selfless, kind, generous, soft-spoken but strong-willed, with a passionate commitment to the protection of our natural resources.”

George and Laura lived on 585 acres in northern Pickens County. After George passed away in 1997, Laura wanted to make sure their property would continue to contribute to the natural beauty along Highway 11 and placed it into a conservation easement with Upstate Forever. Although not directly adjacent to Highway 11, their homestead expands the views and natural habitat beyond the South Saluda River, protecting a home that she and George loved most while protecting the area’s beauty forever.

“What a wonderful legacy she has left for all of us with the preservation of her beautiful property along the South Saluda River,” Wyche declared.

“We just lost a remarkable woman.” said Upstate Forever Land Trust Committee member Ted Sheheen. “I remember Laura as one of our strongest conservation advocates in Pickens and Greenville Counties. She was active in organizing the Bluegrass & BBQ event at Table Rock Lodge.”

She then continued to advocate for conservation efforts by working with others in a local outreach group in Pickens County to educate and encourage others to protect the natural resources in the Upstate. She lived a long and fulfilling 93 years, and the Upstate is better for it. Her considerable contributions will have lasting impacts for generations to come.



“[She was] selfless, kind, generous, soft-spoken but strong-willed, with a passionate commitment to the protection of our natural resources.”

—BRAD WYCHE,
UPSTATE FOREVER FOUNDER
& SENIOR ADVISOR

NEW UPSTATE FOREVER STAFF MEMBER

For full staff bios, visit upstateforever.org/team



Kerry Newberry

Office Manager / Executive Assistant

Kerry joined Upstate Forever in November of 2019. During her diverse career as a public school teacher, technical writer/editor, information technology business analyst, and educating naturalist, she has lived and worked in Texas, Minnesota, and Georgia. In her role at Upstate Forever, Kerry provides administrative support, facilities management, and receptionist duties. She takes pride in enabling other staff members to focus on fulfilling the organization’s core mission. In her spare time, Kerry enjoys kayaking, hiking, and birdwatching with her husband.

THE VALUE OF WATER

A silhouette of a person carrying a child on their shoulders, looking out over a body of water at sunset. The child is wearing a colorful life preserver. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds, and the water is calm. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

By Erika Hollis

CLEAN WATER DIRECTOR

It can't be overstated. Water is the single most important resource on the planet. All life as we know it — everything you've ever experienced — exists because of water.

We are fortunate in the Upstate in that most of us have access to plenty of clean drinking water whenever we need it. In recent weeks, I've been even more appreciative of the fact that I have access to clean, reliable water with a turn of the tap. Think about how difficult a simple hygienic measure like hand washing would be without easy access to clean running water.

And yet, in this part of the world, in an era of modern convenience, it's all too easy to take clean water for granted. It's easy to forget the value of water and the immense role it plays in our daily lives.

We can't let that happen here. As our region grows, it's more important than ever to protect water quality in the Upstate.

Continued on next page >>

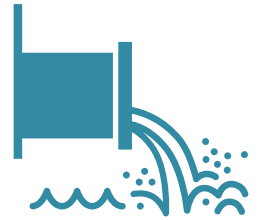
In its natural state, **land filters and absorbs stormwater** — wetlands & forests are especially good at this.



As development increases, natural land is converted into **impermeable** surfaces that water can't pass through (like parking lots, roofs, & roads)...



... so instead of being absorbed, water rushes along the land at high speeds.



Contrary to what many people believe, most stormwater is NOT treated. **This means whatever's on the ground ends up in our waterways.**



▲ WHY DOES SPRAWL IMPACT WATER QUALITY?

Continued from page 7

You've probably noticed that the Upstate is losing large tracts of land to development. In fact, the Upstate's pave-over rate is equivalent to almost one new Haywood Mall (and its parking lots) every single day.

Unplanned growth, aka sprawl, has serious negative effects on our water quality. Flooding, erosion, and pollution are just a few of the woes that come with paving over too many of the natural areas that filter and absorb water. (See "Why Does Sprawl Impact Water Quality?" graphic above)

So what can we do to reduce these impacts? The best solution is to leave land next to waterways undeveloped, creating a buffer that can filter pollutants, lessen the impacts of flooding, and safeguard our drinking water supplies.

Land protection is also the most *cost-effective* way to protect water quality. According to a study by the Trust for Public Land, every \$1 spent on land protection saves \$27 on water treatment costs, because it keeps our waters clean, naturally, without the need for costly

infrastructure upgrades. That's a great return — on any investment.

In this part of the state, most people get their drinking water from surface water, which is essentially water from a local river or reservoir. Currently, the majority of rivers and streams carrying the Upstate's drinking water are not protected. It's essential that we work now to find strategic ways to protect our drinking water sources.

Fortunately, many groups in the area, including Upstate Forever, are working to safeguard our water through advocacy efforts, sprawl reduction, and land protection. (See "How Upstate Forever works to protect water" on the facing page)

The effort to ensure clean, abundant water matters to us all. **Here are some things you can do as a private citizen to help safeguard our water:**

Monitor your local waterways by becoming a citizen scientist through SC's Adopt-a-Stream program or by keeping a log of what's happening in your local creek, river, wetland, or lake. Learn more at bit.ly/scaas >>



EVERY \$1 SPENT ON LAND PROTECTION SAVES \$27 ON WATER TREATMENT COSTS.



Source: The Trust for Public Land

Unchecked stormwater from development causes a lot of problems:

EROSION wears away at river & stream banks, which is dangerous & costly to repair.



POLLUTION like trash, oil, pet waste, & fertilizer is picked up & carried into nearby rivers or streams.



SEDIMENT clogs waterways & carries pollutants like bacteria, heavy metals, & nutrients.



FLOODING is extremely dangerous & destructive and becoming more common in the Upstate.


The good news? Upstate Forever & our partners are working on solutions.**>> Tell your state representatives that water matters to your community.**

Our state legislators like to hear from their constituents – and this is an election year, so they will be paying extra close attention. It doesn't have to be complicated – a quick call or email gets the message across. Find your state officials at bit.ly/sclegislators.

Tell your local elected officials too! City and County officials often set priorities based on what they hear from their constituents. If protecting green space and water quality are important issues to you, your local officials need to hear that! Consider writing them a letter, sending an email, or picking up the phone to make your voice heard. We've put together a resource to help you at upstateforever.org/local-officials.

Pay attention to other local city and county council issues and participate when you can. Remember, many policies governing how we manage land, construction, and transportation can impact our local waterways. UF currently offers e-newsletters with updates and alerts related to Greenville and Spartanburg growth issues; sign up at upstateforever.org/email.

Be on the lookout for alerts from UF and our partner organizations.

We will let you know when action is needed on issues affecting our water resources. Follow us on social media and sign up for our water issues e-newsletter, The Water Log, at upstateforever.org/email. 



Erika Hollis is the Clean Water Director at Upstate Forever and can be reached at ehollis@upstateforever.org

To learn more about how you can become an advocate for our threatened water resources, visit upstateforever.org/ValueofWater

OUR WATER WORK**How Upstate Forever works to protect water****Critical land protection**

Water quality drives our land protection work. Because of your support, we're working to permanently protect an additional 15,000 acres of our region's most critical lands to positively impact water quality.

Watershed-based planning

Our Clean Water Team partners with drinking water utility providers on strategic plans to protect and improve water quality right here in our local watersheds.

Clean water advocacy

We advocate at the local, state, and federal levels to advance policies that protect our drinking water, as well as the places we love to fish, hunt, swim, and explore. *See page 16 for details*

Slowing the rate of sprawl

UF's Land Policy team works to enact plans that slow the rate of sprawl and steer development away from the sensitive areas that naturally protect our water quality.

Supporting 100-foot buffers

The most cost-effective way to protect drinking water quality is by keeping land next to waterways natural and intact. We support an initiative to require 100-foot buffers alongside the Reedy River in Greenville County.

Bacteria reduction in rivers

Thanks to SCDHEC funding, we help landowners in critical areas by offsetting costs on projects that reduce bacterial pollution, such as septic tank repair and replacement and fencing cattle out of streams.

Visit upstateforever.org/Clean-Water to learn more about our work

Too often, you seem to only appreciate the vast importance of water when it becomes scarce. As a farmer, I have learned to respect water in a way that I never put myself in that position of scarcity.

— BRUCE ADAMS, DIRECTOR OF FURMAN FARM



FARMING + AGRICULTURE

Water is essential for local food

***Bruce Adams** is a 4th-generation farmer and Director of Furman Farm. The sustainable agriculture practices he employs on this 1/4-acre farm supply Furman University's dining hall with fresh produce all year-long without the use of an irrigation system.*

Water is a life source — for humans, for animals, for plants. Without water, we would cease to exist. But too often, you seem to only appreciate the vast importance of water when it becomes scarce.

As a farmer, I have learned to respect water in a way that I never put myself in that position of scarcity. If you were watering our 1/4-acre plot in a traditional way, you could be using upwards of 50-75 gallons a day in the summertime. But our garden is arranged in a way that we can maximize each rainfall — in fact, we often have an excess of water that flows from the farm straight into Swan Lake. We go to a great extent to conserve water, and our systems have become a model for campus farms for just about every university in the Southeast and beyond — even Princeton. 🌱

STATE WATER PLAN

Ensuring enough water

Each day, businesses and individuals in SC tap **1 billion gallons of surface water and 333 million gallons of groundwater**. Population and economic growth will increase competition for water. SC DNR is updating our State Water Plan to ensure that an adequate and reliable supply of water will be available into the future. Learn how to participate at upstateforever.org/state-water-plan

My favorite part of sharing Lake Jocassee with visitors is their reactions. Joy. Wonder...Lake Jocassee is our Grand Canyon, our Yosemite Valley.

— BROOKS WADE, JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS



ICONIC PLACES

Our lakes, rivers, & streams make the Upstate beautiful

Brooks and Kay Wade own *Jocassee Lake Tours*. They (along with Official Ship's Dog Mica) offer year-round tours of Lake Jocassee, a 9,000-acre, 385-foot deep reservoir located in Oconee and Pickens Counties.

Brooks: I remember our first sight of Lake Jocassee like it was yesterday. Kay and I came camping at Devils Fork State Park ten years ago. We were escaping yet another Florida hurricane, since we lived for many years on a barrier island in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Our first morning here I got up early, walked down to the shore of Lake Jocassee at sunrise, and literally fell to my knees. I had never seen anything, any place so beautiful in my entire life. We were living here six months later.

Kay: We found our 'forever place' at Lake Jocassee. First time visitors consistently remark on how clear the water is, and it isn't just clear... the water is also some of the cleanest in the eastern United States, fed by rivers and streams that originate in springs and travel through land largely undeveloped. When water leaves Lake Jocassee to make hydroelectric power on its way to Lake Keowee, it is about as clean as water can be.

Brooks: Thanks to the protection the Jocassee Gorges

receives, the quality of Lake Jocassee water remains excellent, and with the help of Friends of Jocassee, SC Adopt-a-Stream and organizations like Upstate Forever, we are working to keep it that way.

Kay: The Jocassee Gorges is part of the upper Savannah watershed. Somewhere between the headwaters of Jocassee and the Atlantic Ocean, the Savannah River becomes the fourth most polluted river in the country. It insults us to the core that we treat the most valuable asset on Earth like a toilet, flushing industrial pollutants downstream to become someone else's problem. It's outrageous. We need more protection for our water, not less.

Brooks: The practical value of water is obvious. For drinking, for irrigation, for recreation. The list is endless. It is the aesthetic qualities, the ethereal qualities, that draw me most to water. And water does not stand alone. To be magical, it requires light, and in this part of the world, the surrounding arms of mountains. My favorite part of sharing Lake Jocassee with visitors is their reactions. Joy. Wonder. Sometimes the sharing is wordless, like watching sunrise at the Grand Canyon. Lake Jocassee is our Grand Canyon, our Yosemite Valley. 🌿



Reedy Falls, February 6, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Clean water is a basic human right

Mary Duckett is a lifelong activist and resident of Greenville's Southernside community. As president of Southernside Neighborhoods in Action, she has joined community leaders and environmental justice advocates to call for the cleanup of toxic coal tar along the Reedy River, the left-behind results of a manufactured gas plant in the area that closed in 1952. While this contamination has not yet been resolved, Mary has been instrumental in bringing this environmental justice issue to light and engaging the community to ask Duke Energy to clean up the former gas plant site on Bramlett Road.

WATER ADVOCACY NEWS

Planning for future floods

During a flood event on February 6, 2020, the Lake Conestee Dam saw 7,161 cubic feet of water per second at peak flow. That's enough water to fill an Olympic sized pool in 12 seconds.

Recent flooding around the Upstate has sparked a conversation about how land use and rapid growth have led to increased runoff from storm events.

Fortunately, experts from around the state, including staff from Upstate Forever, are working to plan for future flood events. Learn about their plans and what you can do to support flood reduction efforts at the local level at upstateforever.org/floodwater.

Clean Water Act Rollbacks

The EPA's recent attacks on the Clean Water Act have made national headlines, leaving many of us wondering how this impacts our local waterways and drinking water sources. The short of it: Our water resources are left vulnerable by these rollbacks. Learn about the controversy surrounding these rollbacks and how they will affect your local waterways and drinking water sources at upstateforever.org/CWArollbacks.

I was raised right there in the middle of the coal ash contamination in Southernside. When we were growing up, we were told not to play in it — but just because it made a mess. If you walked in the coal tar you were told not to walk in the house because it would get all on your clothes and your mom didn't want that tracked through the house. We played in it anyway.

People actually ate fish out of the Reedy, too. That was our way of survival. When I was growing up, there were hogs, pigs, cows, chickens, you name it, down in that area along the river. We ate the eggs, the hogs, drank the milk from those cows — and I'm sure that all of that was contaminated, too, because they drank the water out of the tributary down there.

We didn't know then that the coal tar was dangerous. There was no one checking on the environment at that time, especially since ours was a neighborhood of people of color in segregated times. There was no one around to tell us, "This is hazardous to your health." Southernside was an underserved neighborhood, and our area was the dumping ground.

But now we know. There is a massive number of black people that lived in this area who have died or fought cancer that lived right in that contaminated area. I was diagnosed with cancer in 2012.

But I've always been vocal. It's in my DNA to be vocal. I had many mentors that taught me how to be vocal. And I've been saying that mess needs to be cleaned up for some time. I want to make sure that the next generation doesn't come up in the same environment that I did. It's important that we make sure that the quality of life for our youth is one that is going to enhance their lifestyle and their longevity. I want the children to be healthy.

The good news is we have gotten the community's attention. There is a new president here for Duke Energy who is adamant about working with us through SCDHEC and some other neighborhood entities to get that cleaned up. As a matter of fact, they are drilling some more wells right now in the area where I live and grew up.

Rome wasn't built in a day and this mess didn't happen overnight, but I have hope. I want the young people to have a chance at a brighter future and an environment that is safe and healthy. We are on our way. 🌱

I've always been vocal. It's in my DNA to be vocal... And I've been saying that mess needs to be cleaned up for some time. I want to make sure that the next generation doesn't come up in the same environment that I did. I want the children to be healthy.

— MARY DUCKETT, PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERNSIDE NEIGHBORHOODS IN ACTION, ON TOXIC COAL TAR ALONG THE REEDY RIVER





CJ Golobish of Liability Brewing

We are spoiled with the quality of water in the Upstate, and I'm thankful for it every day. Let's not take it for granted.

— **CJ GOLOBISH**, LIABILITY BREWING

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

The availability of abundant, clean water was a key contributing factor when Fujifilm selected Greenwood, SC, as the location for its North American manufacturing facility over thirty years ago. And to this day, water conservation is a priority issue for Fujifilm globally as well as locally. Fujifilm remains committed to the protection and preservation of our precious natural resources, and Upstate Forever plays a key role in this for our watershed and the Upstate in general.

PAMELA VAUGHN, FUJIFILM MANUFACTURING U.S.A.

Water plays a vital role in the production of many Milliken products. We use water to purify, transport, clean, cool and protect our operations. In some cases, water is a vital component of our final product that we supply to our customers. Our intent is to responsibly use the water in our operations and return it to the environment in as good a condition as it was supplied to us. We monitor our water consumption and challenge ourselves to continue to reduce this consumption.

ALLEN JACOBY, MILLIKEN & COMPANY

Water is the most important ingredient in beer. Beer is a magical explosion of chemical reactions and amazing life processes that happen on a microscopic level. From growing barley and hops - to carrying enough calcium for yeast to live their best life, water is in every step of the process. We spend so much time sourcing quality grains and hops, yet if we get middling ingredients we can still make great beer. If we ever received mediocre water, our beer could never be above average. We are spoiled with the quality of water in the Upstate, and I'm thankful for it every day. Let's not take it for granted.

CJ GOLOBISH, LIABILITY BREWING COMPANY IN GREENVILLE



Lake Greenwood / jon holloway

ECONOMICS OF ECOLOGY

We should see waterways & forests as economic assets




Dr. John Quinn is an associate professor of Biology at Furman University and has worked with Upstate Forever to map and identify the most critical lands for water quality protection.

The proud form of a solitary pine. The flowing curves of a headwater stream. The environmental aesthetic of the Upstate is something most, if not all, of us value, but it can be difficult to quantify. However, the benefits provided by trees and water are important to consider as we anticipate future growth in the Upstate.

My colleagues at Furman and I work to capture multiple values of nature — both relative value and a simple dollar value. For example, our work and others have shown that a forest buffer around waterways mitigates the effects of sediment and nutrient export on water quality. These data suggest that protecting and restoring headwaters and stream corridors will have an outsized impact on water quality throughout the region.

We also found that Greenville residents are willing to pay over \$18 per year over 10 years to support forest restoration. Shifting to water quality, we found a parallel economic value in demand for water quality for both farmers and consumers, suggesting that these groups share a common interest.

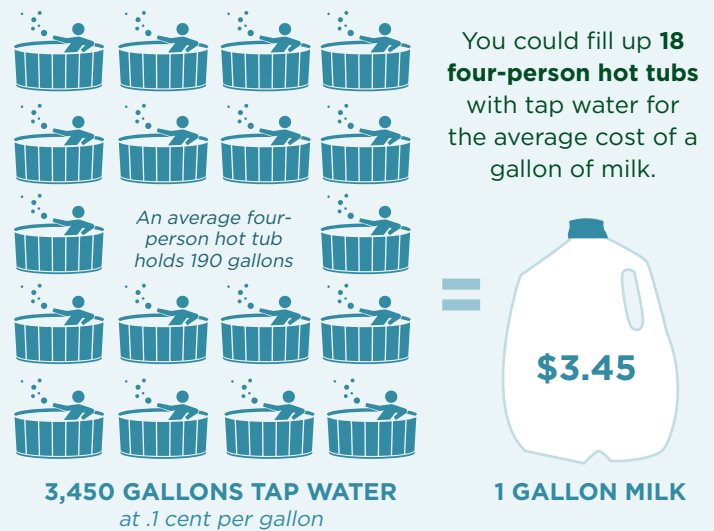
What's next? We need to make these values (economic and otherwise) clear to all citizens of the Upstate. We need to understand what people value in their water, forests, and grasslands, and consider unique ways to collect these data.

However, we need to be careful to not overemphasize economic metrics. Nature, including forests, Piedmont grasslands, and mountain streams, is worth more than a simple economic dollar value. 

BY THE NUMBERS

What is clean water 'worth'?

The average cost per gallon of tap water in the Upstate¹ is less than 1 cent. That's pretty low. To put it in perspective,



If soda & tap water cost the same per gallon, your water bill would skyrocket more than **10,000%**²



Yet water is essential for life, food, and prosperity.

\$33.4 BILLION
218,719 JOBS

Contributed by the natural resource-based sectors annually to South Carolina's economy. All of these sectors are dependent on clean and adequate water.³



Portion of the US economy that would *immediately* grind to a halt without a reliable & clean source of water.²

19 GALLONS =

Water needed to grow one apple⁴



Sources:

1. UF Staff Analysis 2. TheValueofWater.org 3. Clemson University 4. Science Media Center

Take our 5-minute survey for a chance to win!

We want **your** perspective on the value of water! Take our brief survey & be entered to win a \$100 Visa Gift Card, an Upstate Forever 16oz Nalgene® bottle & an Upstate Forever "Be the Upstate" tshirt: upstateforever.org/VOWSurvey



WIN A \$100 VISA GIFT CARD & LIMITED EDITION GEAR



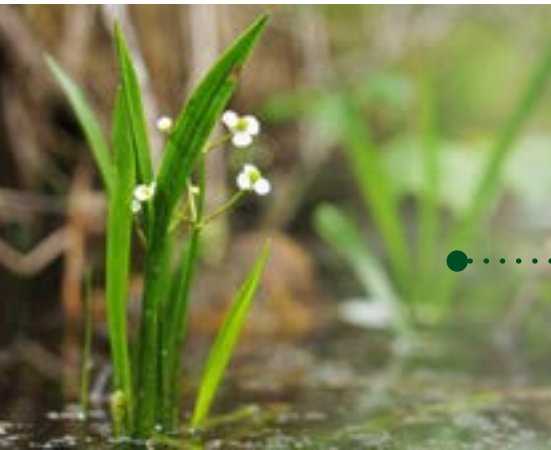
OUR WATER ADVOCACY

Fighting threats to our water

Upstate Forever advocates at the local, state, and federal levels to advance policies that protect our drinking water, as well as the places we love to fish, hunt, swim, and explore. While we look to collaborative solutions first, we also sometimes take legal action to ensure that bad actors are held accountable for causing damage to our waterways. Below are just a few of our recent advocacy efforts.

Upstate Forever vs. Kinder Morgan

Upstate Forever is partnering with the Savannah Riverkeeper and the Southern Environmental Law Center to hold Kinder Morgan accountable for cleaning up the site of the 2014 spill of 364,000 gallons of diesel and jet fuel near Brown's Creek in Anderson County. Our Clean Water Act lawsuit win in the U.S. Fourth Circuit is currently pending before the U.S. Supreme Court (docket number 18-268).



Bunched Arrowhead Preservation

Upstate Forever is working with Naturaland Trust, ReWa, and community advocates to identify and protect populations of the endangered Bunched Arrowhead plant. With our partners and local citizens, we opposed two subdivisions that would have been located just feet from the plant's critical habitat. Currently, we are working with ReWa to implement a mitigation project that will improve the quality of the plant's rare habitat, and efforts are underway to expand this area as a protected preserve.



Coal Ash Removal

Upstate Forever worked with the Southern Environmental Law Center to secure a voluntary agreement with Duke Energy in 2015 for the excavation of the Lee Steam Station coal ash ponds located along the Saluda River in Anderson County. Work is ongoing to move all coal ash to a new lined on-site landfill, but removal of ash from the ponds most at risk for flooding has been completed. We also helped with the effort to stop a proposed coal ash landfill in Pickens County.



Dominion Pipeline construction damage

Upstate Forever documented and reported significant construction violations at water crossings in Spartanburg County along the path of the 55-mile Dominion Transco to Charleston natural gas pipeline in 2018. These violations caused sedimentation significant enough to shut the intakes at a water utility on the South Tyger River. SCDHEC ultimately fined Dominion for these violations in 2019. Upstate Forever opposed the project from its inception.

Want to get updates and action alerts when an issue threatens water quality in the Upstate? Go to upstateforever.org/email and sign up to receive The Water Log e-newsletter.

A single acre of wetlands can store approximately 1 million gallons of floodwater.

Source: EPA Report

The Rocky River wetlands in Anderson are prime habitat for many species of plants and animals.

PHOTO BY MAC STONE

HABITAT + FLOOD REDUCTION

Wetlands are the Upstate's unsung heroes



By Megan Chase

CLEAN WATER ADVOCATE
mchase@upstateforever.org

Have you thanked your local wetland lately? No? Just me?

Let's step back; have you even THOUGHT about wetlands lately (or ever)? Wetlands don't always get the respect they deserve, but we should all be celebrating them for the many benefits they provide for our community — naturally and free of charge.

Think of wetlands as a natural sponge — they catch and slow down the flow of water and slowly release it over time, which reduces flooding and erosion downstream. Wetlands also act as natural filters by trapping sediment and removing pollutants through their dense root systems and absorbing excess nutrients through plant uptake. In this way, wetlands are like the kidneys of watersheds, vital to our health and often overlooked.

Wetlands are so effective at cleaning up pollution, in fact, that they are sometimes used to treat wastewater and they make a difference when it comes to treating our drinking water. Forested wetlands even reduce treatment costs for drinking water sources, making them a critical part of our natural water infrastructure.

Here in the Upstate, wetlands provide essential habitat for unique plants, fish, and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species. In the foothills, where there is some of the highest salamander diversity in the world, wetlands and ephemeral pools provide spawning habitat away from predatory fish. In Travelers Rest, rare seeps provide one of only two habitats in the world where the endangered Bunched Arrowhead grows.

With all the benefits we enjoy from wetlands, the successful functioning of our communities is dependent on the health of these special ecosystems. We are all part of a watershed and it is all of our responsibility to protect it. Get to know your watershed like you know your own neighborhood. 🌿



RECENTLY PROTECTED LAND

Critical wetlands, streamside properties, and a peaceful forest oasis

Upstate Forever's land trust recently completed five conservation projects, totaling 624 acres of land that are now protected forever.

In Union County, Upstate Forever has helped protect two wetland mitigation projects totaling over 352 acres, which will include wetland restoration and preservation projects providing water quality benefits to Gilkey Creek and the Broad River.

Further, another recent Union County project protects more than 161 acres and over a mile of streambank along Fairforest Creek. This area of Union County is very active with existing, ongoing, and future projects targeting the wide expanses of the Fairforest Creek floodplain.

We also were successful in helping a private landowner expand protections to the historic Mills-Screven Plantation outside of the Town of Tryon, North Carolina. This 75-acre property includes bluffs overlooking the North Pacolet River and other easements stewarded by Upstate Forever. While we typically focus our conservation efforts in the ten-county Upstate region, this property protects headwaters that contribute to watersheds in the Upstate. Ultimately, the property will be owned by an Upstate Forever conservation partner, Conserving Carolina.

Most recently, Upstate Forever permanently protected Kings Mountain Preserve, a 36-acre property in Cherokee County. This peaceful forested oasis will be home to the state's newest green burial cemetery.

To date, Upstate Forever protects more than 23,500 acres across the ten-county Upstate region.



DO YOU OWN LAND YOU'D LIKE TO PROTECT FOREVER?

Our Land Trust helps landowners preserve their legacy through voluntary conservation easements. You continue to own the land, and you may realize significant tax benefits. Funding may also be available. For more information, email Scott Park, Glenn Hilliard Director of Land Conservation, at spark@upstateforever.org.



HELP US PROTECT EVEN MORE LAND

Land protection is the key to protecting what we love about the Upstate. When undertaken strategically, land protection promotes high drinking water quality, recreational opportunities, local food production, biological diversity, and future environmental health.

In the face of rapid growth, more funding is needed to protect the Upstate's special places while we still have the opportunity. To take action, visit upstateforever.org/protect-more-land

LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

Upstate Forever's land trust renews national accreditation

Following a rigorous application process, Upstate Forever's land trust has renewed its accreditation through the national Land Trust Alliance. This process includes a comprehensive review to ensure our organization upholds strong standards and demonstrates sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible governance, and lasting stewardship.



Accreditation verifies that we are doing our part with the best interests of our stakeholders like our donors, members, and partners in mind, but first and foremost, it is a verification for those landowners that trust us with one of their most precious assets — their land, now and forever.

Our land trust is stronger than ever for having gone through the rigorous accreditation renewal process once again. Our strength means our region's natural assets — from iconic lands like Stumphouse Mountain, Chauga Heights and Nine Times Forest to working farms and special places across the Upstate — will be protected in perpetuity.

In 2008, Upstate Forever became the first land trust in South Carolina to achieve this esteemed distinction that recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Of more than 1,300 land trusts in the United States, we are proud to be one of just 400 that have earned accreditation through the Land Trust Alliance.



NEW BOARD MEMBER

Margaret Harrison

Margaret Harrison, of Pelzer, SC, is retired after a 35-year career as a research administrator with Mitsubishi Polyester Films of Greer, South Carolina. Now a full-time farmer, she is the co-owner of H & G Produce, a family-owned farm established in 2012 that provides a variety of vegetables to the public and to local businesses.

A passionate advocate for local farmers and agricultural issues, Margaret currently serves as the co-chair of the Farm Bureau Women Committee and as an advisor for the USDA FSA committee of Greenville/Pickens County.

Margaret is also currently serving as a member of the Upstate Forever Land Trust Committee. She is married to Bryant Harrison, and they have four daughters and six grandchildren.

She is a long-time member of St. Matthews Baptist Church, where she serves as president of the deacons' wives.

To view all board members' bios, visit upstateforever.org/board



UF Land Conservation Manager Chris Starker (left) with Don & Bettina George on a stewardship visit to their protected property in Oconee.



Membership in the Wyche Society is open to all who support Upstate Forever annually at a level of \$2,500 or above. To join, email Aldon Knight, Director of Development and Community Relations, at aknight@upstateforever.org

BLUE RIDGE

\$500,000 - \$999,999

Alice Wald

PIEDMONT

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Hollingsworth Funds

Diane Smock &

Brad Wyche

GREENBELT

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Jolley Foundation

Pete & Sally Smith Foundation

SCDHEC

VISIONARY

\$25,000-\$49,999

James & Kathleen Barr

Glenn & Heather Hilliard

GUARDIAN

\$10,000-\$24,999

The Airey Law Firm

Anonymous

Bo & Judith Aughtry

Mike & Laura Baur

BlueCross BlueShield
of South Carolina

Duff & Margaret Bruce

Edwin & Andrea Cooper

The Daniel-Mickel Foundation

Lillian Darby

Keller Freeman

Gally & Fielding Gallivan

Douglass & Ren Harper

Neil & Emelyn Jones

William & Elizabeth Kehl

Thomas & Sandra Kester

Kester Family

Merck Family Fund

Mills Bee Lane Foundation

Pacolet Milliken Enterprises

Jack & Cindy Plating

The Priester Foundation

Eleanor Rohrbaugh

Ronald Blue Trust

Bruce Rowland

Bart & Stephanie Schmidt

SJWD Water District

Dr. Bruce Snyder

Mark & Starla Taylor

STEWARD

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Jim & Karen Akerhielm

Community Foundation
of Greenville

Duke Energy Foundation

Ernest J & Doris H.
Howard Foundation

Fujifilm Manufacturing USA

Greenville Housing Fund

Greer CPW

Allen & Nicolette Grumbine

Mary & Imtiaz Haque

Mary Mims & Jim Tipton

Maureen Johannigman

Erwin & Nancy Maddrey

Mast General Store

John & Belle Montgomery

Carlton & Brenda Owen

Joseph & Page Petty

Donald & Jane Pilzer

Norman & Jo Pulliam

Joseph & Lucy Pulliam

Robert & Christina Rogers

Hal & Minor Shaw

Wade Sherard

Carter & Dixie Thomasson

Trehel Corporation

Ben & Jaime Wall

Woodruff Roebuck

Water District

Neal & Faye Workman

CONSERVATOR

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Robert & Lisa Bezzeg

Alan & Jane Butcher

Margaret Cox

Howland & Mary Fran Crosswell

Curly Willow Designs

Charles & Libby Dalton

Gary C Davis

Dick & Dayna Elliott

William & Beth Fuller

Clark & Katie Gallivan

Mason Garrett

Jeff & Nancy Giguere

Greene Finney & Horton

Greenville Water

Marianna & Roger

Habisreutinger

Robert & Becky Hartness

Reid & Brice Hipp

Wayne & Valerie Hollinger

Robert Hughes

Hughes Agency, LLC

Johnson Development
Associates, Inc.

Paul & Sara Lehner

Genevieve Manly

Sharon Dye & Marc Bolick

Mary Black Foundation

Hank McCullough & Merietta
McKenzie

Charles & Rachelle Mickel

Nachman Norwood &
Parrott Wealth Management
Consultancy

Natural Investments LLC

Leon & Barbara Patterson

Piedmont Natural Gas

Renewable Water Resources

Riverbend Shoals LLC

ScanSource

Linda Schmidt

Ron Smith

Spartanburg Area
Chamber of Commerce

Spartanburg Sanitary
Sewer District

SynTerra Corporation

Charles & Nancy Thomas

Jack & Jane Turner

Adam & Liz Tyson

William Webster

SUSTAINER (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Ag South Farm Credit, ACA

Dennis & Judith Allen

Lukas & Ivey Allen

Kelley Barnhardt

Neil Batavia

John Blair

Margaret Blair & James Boman

Blue Ridge Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

Robbie & Harold Boman

Lawrence & Sue Brown

Brant & Judy Bynum

Ron & Signe Cann

Jane Chambers & John Bissell

Harry & Alvena Chapman

City of Greenville

City of Spartanburg

Dan & Sally Coenen

Jerry & Celia Cogdell

Thomas Craig

Judy Cromwell

Stanley Crowe

Jeannie Croxton

James Davis

Earth Design

Gary & Kacey Eichelberger

Robert Erwin

Cecilia Franko

Friends of the Reedy River

Furman University, Shi Center

for Sustainability

Lowrie & Maggie Glasgow

Leroy & Carrie Gordon

Christine Graham

Greater Greenville

Association of Realtors

Richard & Jean Greer

Robert & Marie Gregory

Dale & Sandra Hamann

Sean & Courtney Hartness

Thomas & Mary Lou Hartness

William & Loretta Hartzell

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, PA

Lee Heery

Emily Hitchcock & Dickey

Gowin

Ed & LeAnne Holcombe

Frank & Anne Holleman

Tee & Sherry Hooper

Laurie Host

Robert & Beverly Howard

Rob & Katie Howell

Gaines & Janet Hutcheson

J & J Rose Family Fund

Carson & Andrea Johnson

Mary Etta Johnston

John & Karen Keith

Michael & Joan Kellett

Linda Ketelaar

Laurens County Water &

Sewer Commission

Edwin & Mozelle Lee

Legacy Advancement

Miriam Shelden & Lou Kinsey

Joseph & Carole Lyles

Reverend Al Masters

John & Stacy McBride

Marshall & Jennifer Meadors

Lee Meeder

Dail Mengelkoch & Gary L Davis

Steven & Phyllis Morgan

Edward O'Keefe

Margaret Pearce

Dabney Peoples

Frank & Ashley Phillips

Marshall & Barbara Pickens

Betty Farr & Richard Riley

Martial & Amy Robichaud

Herman & Thelma Senter

Hal & Jennifer Smith

Elizabeth Stall

Jim & Emelia Stephenson

Walter Stuckey

Spartanburg Area

Transportation Study

The Spinx Company

United Community Banks

John & Janne Vann

Jack & Kathy Varadi

Visit Greenville SC

Herman & John Walker

Bogue & Elizabeth Wallin

Wyche Law Firm



Members of Upstate Forever’s Wyche Society attended a fall reception hosted and sponsored by McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture in their beautiful office on Augusta Road in Greenville. The event was also sponsored by Money With A Mission, an organization specializing in socially responsible and impact investing. At the event, UF announced that the Land Conservation Director position would be named in honor of Glenn Hilliard to recognize his contributions to conservation in the Upstate. For more information, visit upstateforever.org/wyche-society. PHOTOS BY MORGAN YELTON

BENEFACTOR (\$500- \$999)

Jay Alden & Mary Jane Simpson
Robert Ashcraft
Paula & Stanley Baker
Richard & Sherry Barrett
Ada Lea Birnie
Elaine Brummett
John & Virginia Cebe
Elliott Close
Cornell University
Crow & Bulman Engineering
Howard & Kay Daniel
Zermah Dawes
Eric & Sara Dellinger
Dorothy & Steve Dowe
Alice Eberhardt

Samuel & Margaret Erwin
William Evins
Abby Fowler
Kyle & Carol Gilley
James & Laura Gossett
Jennings & Jean Graves
Bob & Jo Hackl
Dexter & Marcy Hagy
Half-Moon Outfitters
John Hammes
Jim & Elizabeth Haswell
Francis & Kellen Heidt
Joan & William Herlong
William & Emily Holt
Terry & Kathy Huggins
IBM Corporation
Roy & Margaret Ivey

Ann Jaedicke
Jain Chem Ltd
Kristine Jensen
Anne & Tom Johnson
Scott & Kim Johnston
Jason & Amy Johnston
Lewis & Mary Lou Jones
Jon René Josey
Charles & Virginia Lane
Gloria Larkin
Laurens Electric Cooperative
Wood & Janiec Lay
Joab & Ruth Lesesne
Heather Lyndon
Kenneth Marsh
Ann McCord

Tom & Suzanne McDaniel
Foster & Murray
McKissick
Bern & Candis McPheely
Rex & Wanda Meade
MUFUG Union Bank, NA
Linda Newman
Jonathan & Susanne Norwood
Conyers Norwood
Pace Jewelers
Nicola Page
Partners for Active Living
Cecilia Radford
Terry Schager & Stacey Lindsay

Joel & Gaye Sprague
Mac & Hannah Stone
Amy Sutherland
Joelle Teachey
Arlene & Raymond Teaster
Reid Thomas
Tom & Diane Triplitt
Dean & Beverly Trytten
Jeannine Varenhorst
Pamela Weekes
Chandler Weekes
Woodside, Jr.
The Westin Poinsett
James & Margaret Young
Steven & Teri Zahn

TAKE OUR SURVEY

You could win a \$100 Visa gift card & some limited edition UF gear!

Details on page 15



Dorota Abramovitch
 Jason Adams
 L B & Peggy Adams
 Donald & Linda Aldworth
 Michael Aleksinas
 Cliatt & Elizabeth Alewine
 Gilbert & Barbara Allen
 Steve & Justine Allen
 Alexander & Carol Alperin
 David Amberg
 Carl Anderson
 William Anderson
 William & Barbara Anderson
 Joanna Angle & Billy Altman
 Benjamin & Caroline Ansbacher
 Arkwright Foundation
 Allen Armstrong
 The Armstrong Law Firm
 John & Anne Arrington
 Gary Aten
 James Atkinson
 David & Paige Augspurger
 Kenneth Baerwalde
 Dhara Baiden
 Emily Bailey
 Johnathan & Laura Bain
 Robert & Judy Bainbridge
 Peggy Baker
 Daniel & Kara Ball
 Charles & Mallory Ballard
 Bill & Kerry Bannister
 Bruce Bannister
 Jeffrey & Jan Barker
 Scott & Lezlie Barker
 Barbara Barnes & Terry Mitchell
 Kay Barrett
 Ned & Christy Barrett
 Dennis & Jennifer Bausman
 Dana & Virginia Beach
 Robert Becker
 Jerry & Sandy Beck
 Reba Beeson & Granville Burgess
 David & Margaret Beisser
 Clinch & Mary Belser
 The Benevity Community Impact Fund
 David Bennett
 Eric & Lisa Benson
 Martha Bentley
 Phil & Jay Betette
 Travis Bianchi
 Peter & Debra Biddle
 Biebel Carolina LLC
 Albert & Marian Blackwell
 Martha Blair
 Karen Blake
 Louis & Margaret Blanton
 James & Elizabeth Bloodworth
 Lillian Boatwright
 John Boehme
 Diane Bohlander
 Maxcy & Sylvia Boineau
 Adam Bokor
 Terry & Becky Bolda
 Charles Bolt
 Sally Boman & Travis Leitko
 Ralph & Rebecca Bouton
 Sharyn Bovee
 Linda Bowie
 Joseph & Nancy Bowler
 William & Christine Brafford
 Mark Brewton
 Mary & Billy Bridges
 Frederick Briggs
 Michele Brinn
 Sam & Sarah Britt
 Jordan Broadway
 Elaine Brockman
 Cheryl Brown
 Gail Brownlee
 Robert & Leigh Ann Bryant
 Daniel Bryant
 Kari Buck
 Lyle & Marilyn Burgmann
 William & Patricia Burton
 Chalmers & Mary Butler

Stephen & Sarah Butler
 William Byars
 Katherine Byrd
 Stephen Cain
 Frank & Mary Ann Callcott
 Brad Campbell
 James & Sharon Campbell
 Joseph & Naomi Campbell
 Pete & Donna Cantrell
 Richard Caplan
 Cynthia Carlisle & Robert Bixler
 Gerald & Virginia Carner
 Carolina Foothills Garden Club
 Richard & Bonnie Carr
 Sandra Carr
 Harold & Beth Carson
 Kelly Carson
 Courtney Cart
 John & Naoma Cathey
 Julia & Michael Caudill
 Sam Cely
 Brian & Nicole Cendrowski
 Charles & Marieke Chancellor
 Lynn Chandler
 Matthew & Elsbeth Chaney
 Dennis & Jane Chastain
 June Chastain
 Stephen & Linda Cherry
 Jane Chew & Jim Edwards
 Jean Childress
 Howard Childs
 Sarita Chourey & Ben Montgomery
 Merreth Christopherson
 John & Alice Claggett
 Larry & Sylvia Clanton
 Leslie Clark
 Christine Clark
 Gary & Patricia Clary
 James & Martha Cleary
 City of Clemson
 Clemson University Foundation
 Timothy & Nan Cleveland
 Dale & Bonnie Clinbeard
 Michael & Joan Close
 Theresa Closson
 Andrew & Maureen Coburn
 Michele Cochran
 Leslie Cochran
 Emily Cohan
 Diane Coiner
 Martha & Ronald Cole
 Lynn Coleman
 Don Collins
 John & Patricia Comerford
 Garnett Conaway & Richard Elliott
 Congregation B'nai Israel
 Bradford & Virginia Connett
 Ernest Cooler
 James & Dorothy Corey
 Michael Corley
 Cokey & Lee Cory
 David & Anne Cottingham
 Matthew Couvillion
 Gordon & Kathy Crain
 Sandra Crandall
 Cross Creek Timber LLC
 David & Elizabeth Cross
 Kirbie Crowe
 Kevin & Constance Culhan
 Jim & Amy Cuny
 Susan Cyr & Mark Johnston
 Billy Dalton
 Karen Daniels
 Rick & Rita Danner
 Warren & Gayle Darby
 John Darrohn
 Pam Datwyler
 Rick Davis
 Daniel & Sue Davis
 Emily Davis
 Kent & Lynn Davis
 Dorothy Day & Emily Knights
 Luc & Karine Debaty
 Frederick Dent
 Don & Glenna Descy
 Doreen DiCarlo
 Joy & Cameron Dickerson

Leon & Peggy Dickerson
 Richard & Joyce Dillard
 Nancie Dixon
 Lynne Donehooh
 Julian & Jean Dority
 Douglas Dorman
 Drs. Douglas & Diane Ervin
 George & Susan Douglas
 Marlene Douglass
 Mike & Lisa Downing
 Mary Margaret Dragoun
 Richard & Hedy Dreskin
 Carly Drew
 Jason & Susan Van Driesche
 John & Martha Duggan
 John & Elizabeth Dullea
 Bradun & Elise Dunbar
 David Duncan
 Katie Duncan
 Dinks Dupree
 Larry & Cecile Dyck
 Perry & Rebecca Earle III
 Emily Edwards
 Gayle Edwards
 Janice Edwards
 Tommy Edwards
 Nathan & Sugie Einstein
 Carole Eisen
 Robert & Karen Ellis
 Robert Elmore
 Benjamin & Michelle Espada
 John & Ann Evans
 Arnie & Paula Eversole
 Walter Ezell
 Russell Farr
 Steven & Elouise Faulkner
 Mark Fellers
 Robert Fennell
 Jerry & Natalia Ferlauto
 Luci Fernandez & Kevin Berry
 George Fields
 Martha File & Kenneth Marshall
 David Fingar
 Linda Finlay
 Tim Finley
 Vivian Fisher & Jim Newcome
 Nick Fisher
 Matt & Nancy Fitzner
 Robert & Pamela Fjeld
 Carey Fleming
 George & Sarah Fletcher
 Jerry & Loretta Forbes
 Stephen & Joyce Foster
 Clyde & Deborah Fowler
 Austin Fowler
 Charles & Mary Ann Fox
 John Franklin
 Lawrence & Elaine Fredendall
 David Freedman
 Allen & Madeline Freeman
 William Frye
 Ann Funderburk
 The Furman Company
 Larry & Francoise Fussell
 Clifford & Dana Gaddy
 Elliott & Beth Gaffer
 Thompson & Kathryn Gailey
 James & Nancy Gaines
 Brooks & Carol Gallagher
 Mills & Carol Anne Gallivan
 David Gallup
 Katherine Galofski
 John Gardner
 Eddie & Irene Garrison
 John & Kathleen Garton
 Michael & Barbara Gauderer
 Shelly Geer
 Samuel & Betsy George
 GE United Way Campaign
 Steven & Lydia Gibson
 Mike & Abb Giese
 William Gignilliat
 Perry Gilreath
 Cynthia Gilster
 Chris & Janis Giordanelli
 Shirley Glancy
 Ernest Glenn
 Larry & Diane Gluck

Andy & Jeanette Goldsmith
 Paul & Nancy Goldsmith
 Virginia & Matt Goldsmith
 Dana Gonzalez
 Edwin & Peggy Good
 Robert & Harriet Gooding
 Eugene Goodwyn
 Larry Gosnell
 Brad & Meredith Gower
 Roger Gower
 Willingham & Ann Graben
 William & Teri Graham
 James & Patti Grantham
 Hoyt & Laura Grant
 William & Margarit Gray
 John & Marilyn Green
 John Gregory
 Laurie Gregory
 Jon Grier
 Anne Hall
 Cary Hall
 Don & Martha Hall
 Fred & Bernie Hall
 Ben & Nina Hallissy
 Lisa & Jeff Hall
 Steve & Patricia Hall
 Elizabeth Halpin
 Glen & Jeanine Halva-Neubauer
 Claire Hamanaka & Walt Willard
 Karl & Nancy Hamilton
 Ms. David Hammatt
 George Hammett
 Mike Hammig
 Viktor & Mireille Hanuska
 Joseph & Regina Harber
 Sandra Hardaway
 Russel Hardee
 William & Eleanor Hare
 David & Holli Hargett
 Michael & Jane Harlin
 Mark Harmon
 Merridree Harper & David Blumberg
 Robert & Kathleen Harrington
 Jim Harris
 Seth Harrison
 Jerry & Mary Harvey
 Cecelia Hawkins
 Jean Hays
 David & Carla Hedden
 Ron Hedrick & Kathleen Fagan
 Marjorie Heggie
 Gregory & Tracy Helvey
 Hastings Hensel
 Michael & Sarah Hesshaus
 Marvin & Pollyann Hevener
 Gayle Hewitt
 David & Shirley Hildebrand
 Geneva Hill & James Buschur
 Joe & Ann Hilliard
 Bill & Linda Hines
 JB Hines
 Walter & Carol Hinton
 Mary Hipp
 Tom & Joanne Hochheimer
 Jeff & Lucy Hoffman
 John & Catherine Holcombe
 John & Jean Holcombe
 Elizabeth Holleman
 Nick & Linda Hollingshad
 Erika & David Hollis
 Michael & Ann Holmes
 Penn & Virginia Holsapple
 David & Myrta Holt
 Bill & Grace Holzhauser
 William & Pamela Horthrop
 North Greenville Animal Hospital
 Katie & David Hottel
 Paul & Rebecca Houmann
 Marie Hovland
 Delmer & Kathy Howell
 William & Patricia Howle
 Cherie Hubble & Richard Abernethy
 James Hudson
 Kevin & Robbie Hughes
 Murray & Martha Hughes

Thomas & Marie Hughes
 Diane Hughes
 Jane Hughston
 Joseph Carroll Hunter
 Peter Van Den Hurk
 Bill & Julia Husk
 Christopher & Deirdre Hutton
 Linda Hutton
 Dean & Suzanne Hybl
 David & Harriet Ike
 Catherine Inabnit
 Ivester Von Lehe Farms
 Tracey Jackson
 John James
 Terry & Lisa Dye Janes
 Nancy Jennings
 Joseph & Ann Jennings
 Lawrence & Anne Jennings
 David & Sharon Johnson
 Kinard & Carol Johnson
 Mark & Tricia Johnson
 Henry & Mary Jolly
 Anna Jones & Dave Farmer
 Judy Jones
 Mary Margaret Jones
 Scott & Katie Jones
 John & Susan Jordan
 Joey & Chong Jordan
 JustGive
 Andrew & Sofia Kearns
 Jeanette Keepers
 Virginia Kelly
 T. Keyser
 Marshall & Suzanne Kibbe
 Mark & Leslie Kilstofte
 Martin & Lauren Kindred
 Colby King
 Graydon Kingsland
 Thomas & Kaye King
 Tom & Anne King
 William & Lynne King
 Butch & Diane Kirven
 Christoph & Deborah Klasing
 John & Gretchen Klein
 Aldon & Anna Knight
 Evelyn Kochansky
 Ellen Kochansky
 Wade Kolb
 Don & BJ Koonce
 Manfred & Jane Kramer
 Joan Krech
 Eric & Eileen Krichbaum
 Craig Krieger
 Marty & Liz Kuemmerer
 Paul M & Betty R Kuhnert
 Kimberly Kyker & Dennis Whatley
 Melinda Lafoy
 Loraine Lambert
 Tony Lancelot
 John & Mary Landers
 Christopher Lane
 Josephine & Eddie Laney
 Jerry & Cynthia Larson
 Tom & Gina Latham
 Raymond Laub
 Clifford & Maurie Lawrence
 Jeffrey & Mary Lawson
 Jessica Lazenby
 Helen League
 Jo-Ann Ledger
 Corey Lee
 Jon Lee
 Terrell & Debra Leeke
 Patti Leonard
 Gregory & Candice Lewis
 Sara Lindsay
 Herbert & Dagmar Lindsay
 Connie Lippert
 Tony Lister
 Bryan Little
 Matthew Lockhart
 Raymond Lockhart
 Susan Loeb
 Edward & Brooks Lominack
 Jason Long
 Langdon & Jessie Long
 George & Frances Loudon
 Ryan Luck

Stephen & Carroll Luck
 Mark Lurey
 Luther & Marcia Lyle
 Mary Lynn & Randy Conway
 Billy & Katherine Mabry
 Jeffrey Makala
 Carlton & Belinda Manley
 Chris & Ashley Manley
 Michael & karen Manley
 Frank & Sara Mansbach
 Henry & Valerie Marcil
 John & Fleming Markel
 Nicole Martin
 Jean Martin
 Michael & Catherine Martin
 Karen Mascaro
 Robert & Margaret Massing
 Michael & Karen Mathers
 Louis & Carolyn Mathis
 Patricia Matsen
 Garland & Fleming Mattox
 Thomas & Roslyn Mauldin
 Eugene & Kathryn Mayer
 Rob Mayer
 Patti McAbee & Tommy Eison
 Scott & Michael McAndrew
 Larry & Rachel McCalla
 George McCall
 Jackson & Pamela McCarter
 Nathan & Peggy McClure
 Michael McCoy
 Donald McDonald
 Katherine McDonald
 Richard & Patricia McDonald
 Dave & Catherine McElhany
 Chris & Laura McGrady
 Caroline McIntyre
 Jane McLamarrah & Michael Kohl
 Edward & Fayssoux McLean
 Gina McLellan
 McMillan Pazdan Smith,LLC
 Germaine McSwain
 Jeffrey Meadowcroft
 Bern & Catherine Mebane
 Ralph & Pam Melbourne
 Stephen & Patricia Melsheimer
 Earl & Donna Melton
 Jeanne Melvin
 Corey & Susan Melvin
 William Merritt
 Rick & Chita Middleton
 Curtis & Barbara Miles
 Donald & Mary Miles
 John & Anne Miller
 John & Angela Millon
 Richard & Isabel Millward
 Andrew & Karen Mitchell
 Robert & Karen Mitchell
 Dave Mitchem
 Lynda Molnar
 Lesley Moore
 Patrick & Linda Morgan
 Rob & Stephanie Morgan
 William & Sherrie Morris
 Ramona Murphy
 Joyce Murphy
 Bill Myers
 Larry & Lynne Nachman
 Leonette Neal
 Kam & Emily Neely
 Ralph Neisler
 Billy Nicholson
 Peter & Jane Nicol
 Barry & Elaine Nocks
 Edgar & Stephanie Norris
 Ben & Marion Norwood
 Thomas Nowacki
 James & Crystal O'Connor
 Suzanne O'Dell
 Sheila O'Grady-Irwin
 James Oliver
 James & Jacqueline Oliver
 Jeffrey Oshona
 Elizabeth Owens
 Jan Owings
 Louise Oxner
 Margaret K Parham

Not a member? Become one today at upstateforever.org/donate

While every effort is made to be accurate in our donor list, we regret that errors and omissions sometimes occur. Please contact Ava Thacker, Development Associate, at athacker@upstateforever.org with any corrections.

**Upstate Forever is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
relying on generous contributions from people like you.**

Scott & Dara Park
John & Sally Parrott
Brooks & Adair Patterson
Stanley Pauls
Chris & Shelley Peak
Marion & Jo Peavey
Robert & Louise Peden
Jordan Peeler
William Pelham
James & Dorothy Pence
Wayne & Heidi Pendergrass
Edward Penn
David Penniston
Kenneth Perrigin
Henry & Kathleen Perry
Karen Phillips
Jonelle Phillips
Frank Phillips
Robert & Sharon Phillips
Henry & Rebecca Philpot
Edward & Erica Pickering
Cal & Karon Pilgrim
Orville & Judith Player
Gary & Anne Poliakoff
Michael & Joy Polk
Joe & Lesley Pollard
Ruth Pollow & Richard Mead
Jack & Patricia Postle
Sara Lynn & Jan Postma
Powell Charity Fund
Preserving Lake Greenwood
James & Jane Price
Gary & Pamela Prideaux
Peter & Cathy Proner
Laurie Pulver
Kathryn Putnam
William & Patricia Quarles
Katie Rabe
John & Susan Rach
James Rackley
Chip & Carol Radford
Clay & Stephanie Rainey
Justin Rakey
John & Boo Ramage
Alexander Ramsay
William & Allison Ranson
Kathleen Raschiotto
Christopher & DeeAnn Rasco
Timothy & Susan Reed
Rhonda Reid
Gregory Reighard
Maggie Reilly
Ellen Reneke
William & Beth Renninger
Wanda Revis & Brooks Searls
Rose Mary Ritchie
Shelley Robbins & Michael
Henthorn
Joe Roberts
Mark & Deborah Robertson
Coleman & Debra Robinson
William & Lucinda Rogers
Thomas & Cathy Ronald
Karen Rose & Terry Bollhoefer
Judy Roth
Tom & Phyllis Rouleau
John Rubin
John & Judith Russell
Andrey Ryzhkov
Martha & Mortimer Sams
Chester & Anella Sansbury
Katie Sarbacker
Kenneth & Stacy Sargent
Ted & Anne Sauvain
Kaye Savage
Eric Schaub
Andrea Schechter
Edward & Fran Schmid
SchneiderTreeCare, Inc.
Brad Schur
Dan Scieszka
Charles & Karen Sconce
Judith Scott
Jason Searle
Kyle & Barbara Sease
Mark Seiman
Susan Sellheim
Chris Sermons
Paul & Barbara Serridge

Benjamin Settle
Kenneth & Martha Severens
Lynne Shackelford & Bruce
Brown
Ann Sharp
Bill Sharpton
S.H. Carter Development, Inc.
Gordon Sherard
Pam & Harry Shucker
Bob & Patricia Shufeldt
Wyman, Sara, & Griffin Schultz
Dorothy Signal
Rowena Sim & Joel Boylan
Michael Simmons
Dr. John Simmons
Ralph Sizemore
Helen Sloan
Jenifer Smith & Tom Bolt
Frances Smith
Andrew & Cina Smith
Bob & Dottie Smith
Graham & Jill Smith
Jeff & Sallie Smith
Stephen & Christina Smith
William & Rachel Smith
Jason Smit
John & Judy Snyder
Kyle & Jennifer Snyder
Sunstore Solar Energy
Solutions
Albert Somers
Richard & Doris Sommer
William & Ann Souders
South Carolina Bar - CLE
Division
Janice Souza & Marty
Vankanegan
Franklin & Sharon Sove
David & Debra Spear
Anne Spence & Robert All
James Spencer
Stephen & Allison Spinks
Christina Sprecher & Bennett
Weston
Edward & Stella Stall
Russell & Susan Stall
Leon & Geraldine Stenzel
Cinnamon Stetler & Jason
Hayden
Tom & Cheryl Stevens
Michael Stewart
Karen LaFleur Stewart
Gil Stewart
Kathy Stewart
Tim & Alice Stewart
Daniel Stogner
Robbi Stokes
DeWitt & Carolyn Stone
Martin & Barbara Storey
Richard Strasburger
Marian Strobel
Eugene & Claire Stuart
Marshall Stuart
James Stuckey
Terhune & Denise Sudderth
Joseph & Donna Sullivan
Stuart & Candy Sutliff
Swamp Rabbit Cafe & Grocery
Lisa Swann
Lauran Switzer (Switzer
Family)
George Sykes
William Taft
Merike Tamm
Aron & Karen Tannenbaum
Nancy Taylor
Elizabeth Taylor
Micah Taylor
Peter & Fran Taylor
Aristide & Jennifer Tessitore
Ava Thacker
Nick & Emilie Theodore
Mark & Evanne Thies
Danny & Tonita Thompson
Margaret Thompson
Thomas & Lucy Tiller
James Todd
Family of Laura Townes
Clare Townes
Lee & Louise Tracy

Harry & Norene Trantham
Karen Traxler
Daphne Traywick
Albert Turner
Dale & Beverly Turner
Julie Turner
Greg Tyler
John & Mary Tynan
Dennis Urell
Harry & Josephine Ussery
Jerome VandeWeghe
Hugh & Barbara VantLeven
Sonya Varea & George
Hammond
Dev Vaz
Ruud & Thea Veltman
Eric & Judy Verhoeven
John & Doris Vinskus
James Vissage
John Wagner
Kurt & Stephanie Wagner
Jennie Wakefield
Ben & Conny Walker
Sandra Wallace
John Wallace
Eugene & Joy Waller
Mary Walter
Dyana Walters
Sharon Bennett William Want
Ron & Donna Ware
Daniel & Patty Warner
Gaven Watkins & Joseph
Wallace II
Richard Watkins
Bill Watkins
Daniel Waugh
Wayne & JoAnne Herman
Patricia Webb
Richard & Raylene Webster
Thomas & Bonnie Webster
James & Regina Weeks
Alan & Ellen Weinberg
Lawrence & Ima Weinstein
Kenneth & Barbara Werbowy
Joseph & Ann Werner
Jamie Wesley
Bennett Wessinger
Andy & Catherine Westbrook
Charles West
Nigel & Lauren West
Bruce White
Danny & Sallie White
David & Susan White
Evander Whitehead
Susan & Thomas White
Elizabeth Whitlock
Charles & Kathy Whitmire
Griffin & Mary Andrews
Whittington
Jeff & Nancy Whitworth
Wildearth Landscaping
David & Jean Wilder
William & Barbara Wilder
Reba Wilkins
Lee & Vicki Willard
Craig & Susan Williams
Norman & Nancy Williamson
Robert Williams
Franklin & Nancy Wilson
Irvin & Wilma Winik
Marshall & Jeannette Winn
Jeffrey & Antoinette Wolf
Jean Wood
Paul Wood
Priscilla Woodside
Thomas & Deborah Wood
Gary & Frances Wortkoetter
Joseph Wright
Mimi Wyche & Davis Enloe
David Wyche
Baxter & Paula Wynn
Robert & Carolyn Wynn
Sheree Yang
Joseph & June Yanick
Christopher Yaroch
Robert & Mary Ellen Yeargin
Kurt Young
Laney Younts
Bob & Linda Zavasnik
Sam Ziady

CONNECT WITH US

Get the latest UF updates

Join our email lists

at upstateforever.org/email:

- » Land Protection
- » The Upstate Update
(Monthly Newsletter)
- » Legislative Updates,
(Weekly during session)
- » Greenville City & County
Comp Plan Updates
- » Planning & Growth
Spartanburg
- » The Water Log



Follow us on
social media

Facebook,
Instagram, & Twitter



What legacy will you leave?

Join the Legacy Society by including Upstate Forever in your estate plans. Visit our planned giving website to learn how to make a planned gift to Upstate Forever's endowment, ensuring we are able to continue our work for generations of future Upstate residents.

UpstateForever.GiftLegacy.com



Protecting Land & Water | Advocacy | Balanced Growth

507 Pettigru Street, Greenville, SC 29601
201 E. Broad Street, Suite 1C, Spartanburg, SC 29306


www.upstateforever.org



Please recycle when finished

At Upstate Forever, protecting our water is personal.

We live, work, and play in the Upstate alongside our families and loved ones. Water is essential to life, prosperity, and happiness — and we're working hard to safeguard our water supply both now and for future generations. Help us protect water by becoming a member of Upstate Forever at upstateforever.org/donate.

A photograph of three women standing on a wooden deck outdoors, laughing and talking. The woman on the left has long blonde hair and is wearing a black top and a gold necklace. The woman in the middle has curly blonde hair and is wearing a dark blue sweater over a light-colored collared shirt. The woman on the right has long dark hair and is wearing a light blue and white striped sweater. The background shows a blurred natural setting with trees and a body of water.

Our Clean Water team enjoying the view at Lake Conestee Nature Preserve.
(These days we're all working from our homes, but we still have a good time!) From left to right: **Megan Chase** - Clean Water Advocate; **Erika Hollis** - Clean Water Director; **Katie Hottel** - GIS Coordinator



Pacolet Milliken is pleased to support Upstate Forever in improving the quality of life for all Upstate residents.