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Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy Renamed as Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy to Highlight Support for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

The Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy announced that the non-profit has changed its name to the Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy (CNPC) to reflect its support for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA) as part of the national park system. The CRNRA is composed of 15 park units with nearly 7,000 acres along 48 miles of the Chattahoochee River. As the official Friends group for the CRNRA, the Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy works with the National Park Service to enrich visitor experiences in the CRNRA and protect the park's natural and cultural resources. The national parks need public support, and donations to CNPC help support our local unit of the national park system.

Phillip Hodges, board president for the Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy, said, "the Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy has changed its name to the Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy to better describe who we are and what we do. As the official Friends group for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, having "National Park" in our name emphasizes that the park we support is part of our national park system. Many regular park users do not realize they are in a national park. Our new name highlights the CRNRA as a national park to visitors and distinguishes our organization and our goals to support the CRNRA."

Representing 20% of the public greenspace in the Atlanta metro area and designated as the first National Water Trail, the CRNRA is one of the top 30 most visited national parks in the U.S. with over three million visitors each year. More than 90% of the funds raised by CNPC have gone directly to support the national park to enhance and restore land and water trails, improve facilities, support volunteers, and conduct outreach and education programs.

Hodges added, "Our name has changed, but our mission is the same. The Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy's mission is to build a community of support for the CRNRA and promote stewardship of its natural and cultural resources. CNPC will continue to raise funds and promote volunteerism to help the CRNRA meet its improvement goals and priority initiatives."

CNPC and its donors raise funds for park initiatives such as the first comprehensive trail study for the park, the stairway connecting the Vickery Creek unit to Roswell Mill Park, a new accessible kids' fishing pier at the Island Ford unit, and education programs in the park for underserved youth. CNPC also provides volunteers for CRNRA trail work, invasive species removal, education programs, and other needs within the park. CNPC members enjoy a Walk and Talk series, education programs, and family events.

For more information on how to join, donate, or volunteer with CNPC, visit chattahoocheeparks.org or email info@chattahoocheeparks.org. For information about the CRNRA, trail maps, and boating outfitters, visit nps.gov/chat.

Contact info:

Name: Cathy Barnard, CNPC Board Member, cathy.l.barnard@gmail.com

Organization: Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy

Company URL: www.chattahoocheeparks.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/chattahoocheeparks>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/chattahoocheeparks>

Address: CNPC, P.O. Box 769332, Roswell GA 30076