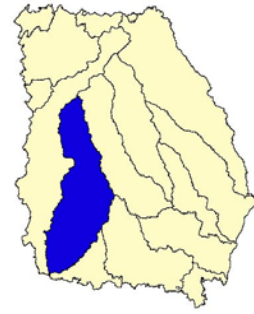




The Flint River!

Flint River Basin



The name is reportedly from the Indian name for the waterway, THRONATEESKA, which refers to a source of flint stone. It has been said that the Muskogee Indian name for the Flint River was HLONOTISKAHACHI. It was named RIO DE CAPACHEQUI by Hernando DeSoto when he discovered these inland waters near Bainbridge, March 5, 1540. The Spanish later called it the RIO PERDERNALES.

Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs)

03130005	Upper Flint
03130006	Middle Flint, Whitewater Creek to Flint River Dam
03130007	Middle Flint, Headwaters of Muckalee and Kinchafoonee Creeks to Lake Worth Dam.
03130008	Lower Flint, Flint River Dam to the Jim Woodruff Dam.
03130009	Lower Flint, Headwaters of Ichawaynochaway Creek to the confluence of the Flint River.
03130010	Lower Flint, Headwaters of Spring Creek at Fish Pond Drain to the confluence of Lake Seminole.

Quick Facts about the River

- The Flint River, which is contained entirely within the state of Georgia, originates from the southern edge of the Atlanta Metropolitan Area, in Clayton County, and flows southerly in a wide eastward arc to Decatur County in southwestern Georgia, where it flows into Lake Seminole near the Florida line.
- The Flint River first sees the light of day at the mouth of a concrete culvert on the south side of Virginia Avenue in Hapeville, just north of Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport.
- The length of the main stem of the Flint River is 349 river miles and drains an area of 8,460 square miles.
- The Flint River has one of only 42 free-flowing river reaches longer than 125 miles remaining in the contiguous 48 states.
- Using satellite imagery, total wetland acreage in the Flint basin has been estimated at about 412,000 acres; approximately 90,000 acres are in the forested floodplain of the Flint River Basin and floodplains and swamps associated with Chickasawhatchee and Spring Creeks.

Biological Resources

- The Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) basin has the largest diversity of fish fauna among the Gulf Coast river drainages east of the Mississippi River.
- Seventeen species have been introduced into the ACF basin by humans including rainbow and brown trout, white catfish, flathead catfish, and more.

- The lower part of the Flint River Basin, together with the upper part of the Apalachicola basin, has the highest species density of amphibians and reptiles on the continent north of Mexico.
- The Upper Flint is home to 4 federally Protected Mussel Species: Shiny-Rayed Pocket Book Mussel, Oval Pigtoe Mussel, Gulf Moccasin Shell Mussel, Purple Bank Climber Mussel.

Environmental Concerns

305b/303d

In the Flint River Basin, there are approximately 43 rivers and streams listed on the 2002 303(d) list as waters not meeting designated uses. These impaired waters include roughly 325 miles rivers and streams in the Flint River Basin.

Fishing Advisories

For a complete listing of fish consumption guidelines for the Flint River Basin and other basins in Georgia see *Guidelines for Eating Fish from Georgia Waters, 2002* at <http://www.state.ga.us/dnr/enviro/>.

NPDES Discharges

Currently, there are approximately 142 facilities, including industries and municipalities, authorized to discharge wastewater into the Flint River Basin pursuant to NPDES Permits.

Our Ties to the River

Tourist Sites / Significant Parks Pertaining to River

The Flint River was declared the #1 most scenic stream out of the 53 studied in Georgia in 1976 by the Department of Natural Resources.

Sprewell Bluff State Park promotes family activities such as fishing, swimming, trails for hiking, grills and tables for cookouts, a playground area, and restrooms. The park provides a boat ramp for floaters to access the river. www.gastateparks.org

How to Get Involved

Watershed Groups in the Basin

Flint River Watchers

Rt.1 Box 152 R
Woodland, Georgia 31836
Phone: 706-674-2335
E-mail: blauriault@alltel.net
Website: www.flintriverwatchers.com

Line Creek Association of Fayette County

290 Crabapple Road
Fayetteville, GA 30215
Phone: 770-719-8425
E-mail: dechase65@hotmail.com

Lake Blackshear Watershed Association

P. O. Box 1218
Cordele, Georgia 31010
Phone: 229-273-3820

¹ Photos Courtesy of Flint River Watchers, photographer Larry Hodges.