



GEORGIA CONSERVATION VOTERS

December E-Newsletter

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2009 Legislative Priorities: Leading Georgia into a Sustainable Future

Every year, Georgia's conservation community convenes to select a few issues on which we will focus our joint efforts during the upcoming legislative session. Our common agenda, called Leading Georgia into a Sustainable Future, includes the following priorities for 2009:

- **Accept No Rollbacks:** We will defend current laws that protect our natural resources (such as the moratorium on aquifer storage and recovery) and work to minimize budget cuts for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, especially the Environmental Protection Division.
- **Fund Public Transit Choices:** To address Georgia's transportation problem and offer convenient and safe alternatives to car travel, the General Assembly must pass measures to expand the state's investment in public transportation.



- **Efficiency First:** In response to challenges facing Georgia's water supply, legislators must champion the fastest, least expensive solutions that will ensure clean water for all.
- **Make Our Highways Safe and More Scenic:** Billboards threaten health, safety and scenic beauty along Georgia highways. The General Assembly should make highways safer and more scenic by ensuring responsible management of rights of way.
- **Create a Climate Action Plan:** Climate change will likely affect our economy through rising shoreline levels and resulting damage to coastal development, disruption of growing seasons for agriculture and forestry, and reduced tourist trade. We urge the General Assembly to create a plan to address climate change.

You can help make these priorities a reality and stay up to date on their progress throughout the session by being sure you are signed up for the [Georgia Environmental Action Network](#) and encouraging your friends to sign up as well.



2009 Environmental Legislative Breakfast

Wake up for conservation at the 2009 Environmental Legislative Breakfast. It will be held February 4, 2009 at the Freight Depot across from the Capitol.

This event is a great opportunity for you to meet with your legislators, friends, and colleagues at the start of the legislative session. Tickets are available [online](#). Reserve your spot today. Please note, tickets are free of charge for legislators.

Support Georgia Conservation Voters Today

An exhilarating campaign season has finally come to an end and here at Georgia Conservation Voters, we are thrilled with the outcome: 85% of the candidates we endorsed won in the general election; both constitutional amendments we endorsed passed; and the constitutional amendment we opposed was defeated.



But winning elections is just the first step in passing important laws that protect our environment. With your continued support, Georgia Conservation Voters will ensure that

our elected officials are aware of the concerns of the environmental community and hold them accountable for their actions.

Your continued support for Georgia Conservation Voters is critical. Our efforts educating elected officials and getting citizens involved are vital to ensure we turn Georgia's conservation values into state priorities.

[Donate](#) to Georgia Conservation Voters today.

Runoff Election Results

Unfortunately, GCV-endorsed candidate Jim Powell was defeated in the December 2nd runoff for the Public Service Commission District 4 seat. Though we are disappointed by this loss, we look forward to continuing to work with other elected officials to promote clean energy opportunities.

Thanks to all of you who supported our endorsed, pro-conservation candidates throughout the election season.

Sincerely,

Chris Osborne,
Executive Director

About Us:

Georgia Conservation Voters works to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all Georgians by making conservation a top priority with Georgia's elected officials, political candidates and voters. GCV understands that the most important decisions made on the environment are made by elected officials, so one of the most important things we can do to protect the environment is to elect pro-conservation candidates.
