



THE GRCA
GREEN PROGRESS
REPORT



2012

The GRCA Green Progress Report,
compiled by the nonprofit
Green Resource Center for Alabama
(GRCA), highlights some of the year's
important developments toward mak-
ing Alabama a greener place to live,
work and play. The following pages
show some of the best green mo-
ments of 2012.

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Top Green Progress Report Highlights of the Year:

Passage of the Forever Wild Constitutional Amendment by 75% of the People of Alabama

In 1992, the citizens of the state of Alabama approved the Forever Wild Land Trust Constitutional Amendment. Considered one of the most historically significant and successful conservation laws in Alabama's history, the Forever Wild Program has protected and preserved more than 230,000 acres in the past two decades.

In November 2012, the Forever Wild ballot measure garnered 75% of the popular vote, the most votes of any candidate or constitutional measure on the ballot, including the presidential race and unopposed statewide candidates. The renewed Forever Wild Constitutional Amendment extends the Forever Wild Land Trust Program for another 20 years.

Passage of the RESTORE Act

On June 29th, 2012, the U.S. Congress passed the RESTORE Act, as part of a long-term transportation bill. The legislation was immediately signed into law by President Obama.

The RESTORE Act will create the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund that will receive 80% of any civil penalties paid under the Clean Water Act by the parties responsible for the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill that occurred on April 20, 2010. Depending on the final settlement, the fines could range between \$4.7 billion to \$17.6 billion. The funds will be used only by the affected areas of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and Texas, and will set into motion one of largest environmental and economic recovery efforts in US history.

Of the 80% set aside for the five states, 65% of the money will be controlled by the states; 30% will be spent by a federal-state task force, and 5% goes to research on the Gulf fisheries.

Alabama Senator Richard Shelby authored the RESTORE legislation with Senator Mary Landrieu of Louisiana. Alabama's Junior Senator Jeff Sessions played a vital leadership role within the Senate Public Works and Natural Resources Committee supporting the new law.





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GRCA Green Progress Report

TOP 12 FOR 2012 LIST

- 1 Forever Wild Program Reauthorized
- 2 Passage of the RESTORE Act
- 3 25th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup Sets Records
- 4 Alabama's First Green Ribbons Schools
- 5 Tuskegee and Alabama State EPA Partnership Agreements
- 6 Fort Rucker Net Zero Energy Facility
- 7 Three Additional Birding Trails Dedicated in Alabama
- 8 LEED "Green Buildings" 2012 List
- 9 2000 Trees To Be Planted in Downtown Montgomery
- 10 Alabama Scenic River Trail Named National Water Trail
- 11 Alabama Power to "Power" Up to 115,000 Homes with Wind Power
- 12 Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System Unveiled in Jefferson County



Government Initiatives



Alabama Energy and Residential Codes Enacted – On March 12, 2012, the Alabama Energy and Residential Codes Board passed unanimously the 2009 International Residential Code and 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. Enacted this fall, the new codes are expected to save the average Alabama homeowner up to \$166 per year on their energy bills.

Birmingham Secures \$10 Million TIGER Grant – The city of Birmingham was awarded the TIGER grant by the Department of Transportation, this summer. The money will go towards the “Road

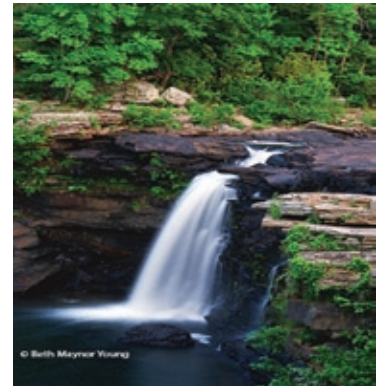
to Recovery Project” as part of the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System, which will help tornado recovery efforts by replacing roads and building bike lanes, trails and sidewalks.

Governor’s Alabama Water Working Group – On April 18, 2012, Governor Bentley directed state agencies with primary responsibilities over Alabama’s water resources to convene the Alabama Water Agencies Working Group to develop a recommendation for a comprehensive statewide water management plan.

Alabama Forestry Practices Among Best in Nation – According to a recent regional Best Management Practices (BMP) Implementation report, Alabama landowners and foresters demonstrated a 97% compliance in the implementation of BMP’s for water quality and forestry. Alabama’s rate of forest BMP compliance is one of the highest in the nation, according to the report.

Little River Canyon Bridge Named One of the Most Eco-Friendly – Little River Canyon Bridge on State Route 35 near Fort Payne, Alabama received national recognition from the Sierra Club as one of the 50 Best Transportation Projects in 2012. The 453 feet bridge that overlooks the riverbed leading to Little River Falls used recycled steel and asphalt in its construction.

Alabama Tree Recovery Campaign Distributes 30,000 Trees – The Alabama Tree Recovery Campaign, a joint project of the Alabama Forestry Commission, the Arbor Day Foundation and numerous local and state organizations distributed more than 30,000 trees in 16 north Alabama communities that were adversely impacted by the April 2011 tornadoes.



Fort Rucker Net Zero Energy Facility – Fort Rucker, near Dothan, Alabama installed a 51 – kilowatt photovoltaic array on Hatch Stage Field. The facility will be a Fort Rucker’s first “net zero” building using only as much energy as they consume on site and recycling or reusing all waste.

Eight Mussels added by US Fish and Wildlife Service to Endangered Species List – The US Fish and Wildlife Service added eight (8) more mussels in Alabama to the list of animals and creatures protected under the Endangered Species Act.



Green Initiatives

Wise Aluminum Recycling Plant in Shoals is the Largest in the Country – In March 2, 2012, Wise Metals dedicated a \$25 million facility in Muscle Shoals, Alabama that according to Wise Metals is the largest single use aluminum can beverage melting facility in the world. The facility contains a furnace that is capable of processing 14.6 billion aluminum cans per year.

Alabama Power to “Power” Up to 115,000 Homes with Wind Power – This summer, Alabama Power completed an agreement with TradeWind Energy to use wind power, a renewable energy source, from Oklahoma and Kansas. The deal will provide 404 megawatts, the equivalent size of a new medium sized power plant, from wind. The new energy source amounts to about 3% of Alabama Power’s total energy capacity and enough to power up to 115,000 homes.

The Institute of Sustainability Certifies Colleges, Restaurants and Businesses – Based in Birmingham, Alabama, The Institute of Sustainability (TIOS) launched its green certification program in the spring of 2012. Notable Alabama institutions and companies that have formed partnerships and taken advantage of the program include: the University of West Alabama, Athens State University, Jefferson State Community College, Shannon Waltchack (a real estate company in Birmingham), the City of Montevallo, ROJO Restaurant and the Alabama Restaurant Association.

Interfaith Environmental Initiative of Alabama Bringing Faith Groups Together – The Interfaith Environmental Initiative of Alabama held their 5th annual forum, “Conservation and Efficiency – What Works.” The coalition of groups convened environmental, business and faith leaders from across the state to discuss energy policy.

In Harmony with Nature Leads Litter-Free Events in Northwest Alabama - Launched two years ago, In Harmony with Nature, a local Shoals organization encourages environmental stewardship by helping festivals go “litter-free.” This past year, In Harmony With Nature conducted litter-free events in Alabama at the W.C. Handy Festival in Florence and the Oka Kapassa Festival in Tuscumbia.



Alabama Water Watch Celebrates 20 Years – Alabama Water Watch, an organization dedicated to citizen monitoring of Alabama’s rivers, streams and lakes celebrated its 20th year in 2012 with impressive citizen participation statistics. This year, Alabama Water Watch monitored 219 waterbodies throughout the state at 477 sampling sites. Sixty-eight (68) citizen groups participated in the program. While 339 Alabamians were certified to be water monitors. In total, the monitors accrued 3,658 water quality records in 2012. Over the past 20 years Alabama Water Watch has certified over 5,861 water monitors, sampled 802 waterbodies at 2,194 sampling sites, worked with 270 citizen groups and accumulated 71,901 total water quality records.

Montgomery’s Hampstead Institute Becomes EAT Alabama – The Hampstead Institute, the Montgomery-based urban farm non-profit organization renamed their organization and broadened their mission in 2012. Now called EAT South, which stands for “educate, act and transform,” the organization which owns and operates two urban farms in Montgomery, will also have as its goal to educate, encourage and sustain the local production of food in urban areas so people can eat healthier, fresher food.

Rain Barrel Workshops – The Alabama Clean Water Partnership, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Coca-Cola and the World Wildlife Fund held Rain Barrel Workshops across Alabama educating citizens about their local watersheds, stormwater management and water conservation. The partnership educated over 600 Alabama citizens in 2012 through this project.

TVA Green Switch Program – The Tennessee Valley Authority and its Green Power Switch partners honored Huntsville Utilities for its Top Recruiter of the Year Award. The Green Switch program allows customers to ensure that energy from wind, solar and landfill gas is added to TVA’s power supply through the purchase of Green Power Switch energy blocks.

Huntsville Botanical Garden’s Green Parking Garden – On May 15th, 2012, the Huntsville Botanical Garden celebrated the construction of a new “green” parking lot installing energy efficient LED lights and strategically placed rain gardens around the lot.

Mobile Baykeeper Swimming Guide App – In 2012 Mobile Baykeepers launched a free app for Alabama using monitoring data collected by ADM and the Alabama Department of Public Health. The app helps you find the closet beach, know at a glance which one are safe for swimming, and share your love of beaches with your friends.

Magnolia Springs Living Shoreline – In 2012, the Magnolia Springs Town Council worked with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Weeks Bay Reserve on a living shoreline design plan, to stabilize the local shoreline and replace invasive plant species with native plant species.

Endangered Species Found in Cahaba River after Dam Removed – Eight years after the Marvel Slab low –head dam was removed from the Cahaba River, The Nature Conservancy led a group of scientists from 10 academic and scientific institutions found 1000-2000 snails per square meter in the area. They also discovered a Flat pebblesnail among the river rocks, an endangered species only found in the Cahaba River.



Land Conservation

New Forever Wild Properties – The Alabama Forever Wild Program acquired 2,107 acres in 2012. Here are the tracts that were purchased this year:

- **Weeks Bay Reserve in Baldwin County** – 715 acres
- **The Porttersville Bay Wetlands Tract in Mobile County** – 470 acres
- **Perdido River WMA – Swift Addition in Baldwin County** – 160 acres
- **Weogufka State Forest Addition in Coosa County** – 762 acres

Longleaf Forest Restored at Wind Creek State Park – In Alexander City, Alabama, as part of a \$1 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Southern Company, the National Wild Turkey Foundation helped restore native longleaf pine to 160 acres in Wind Creek State Park. In a collaborative effort, the Covey Rise Chapter of Quail Forever also implemented a longleaf habitat improvement project on 40 acres next to the 1,445 acre park.

Land Trust of North Alabama Preserves 265 Acres in Huntsville – In 2012, the Land Trust of North Alabama preserved another large green space within Huntsville city limits. In August, the organization bought 265 wooded acres on Chapman Mountain from a family trust. The new preserve, which roughly parallels Interstate 565 now allows half of Chapman Mountain to be set aside as permanent green space. The Land celebrated their 25th year in 2012. They have protected 6,113 acres in 5 North Alabama counties over the past quarter century.

Wildwood Wildflower Preserve – The Freshwater Land Trust and El Paso Corporation opened a 47-acre wildflower preserve in Homewood, Alabama. Along with the land that has been preserved, more than one mile of trails has been developed. The preserve features between 15 to 20 species of wildflowers.

Moss Rock Preserve Adds 99 Acres – In 2012, the city of Hoover, Alabama added 99 acres to the popular Moss Rock Preserve. The park additions, which were purchased four years ago by the city, were officially dedicated for perpetual use as a public park.



Recycling and Cleanups

25th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup Sets Records – The 25th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup in September set a record for of volunteers and volume of waste picked up during the day-long event in Baldwin and Mobile counties. Celebrating its silver anniversary, 5,094 volunteers participated, picking up 207,557 pounds of trash along our coastal and inland waterway zones.

Alabama Power's Renew Our Rivers Removes 192 Tons of Trash – Alabama Power Company's Renew Our Rivers program offers 30 different organized cleanups along rivers and lakes throughout the year. In 2012, a total of 5,815 volunteers helped gather 191.92 tons of trash throughout the company's service area. For the past 13 years Renew Our Rivers has played host to over 50,000 volunteers and gathered a total 5,680 tons of trash and debris.

ADEM Provides 15 Recycling Grants Statewide – Thanks to the 2008 Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Management Act, Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), is able to provide funding for recycling programs. According to the Alabama Recycling Coalition, recycling provides economic benefits to over 25 manufacturers, while employing over 10,000 people. In 2012 the following organizations, coalitions governmental entities and municipalities received recycling grants:

City of Florence, City of Daphne, Jefferson County Department of Health, City of Tuscaloosa, City of Dothan, City of Huntsville/Operation Green Team, East Alabama Recycling Partnership, Mobile County Commission, City of Troy, Bibb County Commission and Albertville/Boaz Recycling Authority

ADEM Cleaned Up 168 of Illegal Solid Waste Dumps – In 2012, according to the ADEM, 168 illegal solid waste dump sites were remediated and cleaned up at various sites across Alabama. These activities resulted in the removal of more than 5,600 tons of solid waste materials. Since its inception, ADEM's illegal solid waste dump cleanup program has removed 25,000 tons of illegally disposed of garbage at almost 700 locations.

ADEM Cleans Up 35 Illegal Scrap Tire Dumps – In 2012, the ADEM remediated and cleaned up 35 illegal scrap tire dump sites, resulting in the removal of more than 24,500 scrap tires. As a part of this effort ADEM also required that at least 50% of those scrap tires be recycled and beneficially reused. Historically, ADEM's program to cleanup illegal scrap tire dumps has removed 7 million illegally disposed of scrap tires at 100 locations.

Alabama Environmental Council Recycle Alabama Campaign – In 2012, the Alabama Environmental Council launched their Business Recycling Program in Birmingham to pick up glass and paper from area businesses. To date, the program has recycled 124 tons of glass and more than 92 tons of paper. With their Event Recycling Kit, the AEC helped over 30 events recycle their waste in 2012.



Environmental Education



Tuskegee Center for Sustainability – In the tradition of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver Tuskegee University began construction in 2012 of the Carver Center for Integrative Sustainability and USDA Service Center.

Alabama's First Green Ribbons Schools – In the Spring of 2012, Munford Elementary School in Munford, Alabama and Winterboro High School in Talladega, Alabama were named by the Department of Education as the state's first Green Ribbon Schools. The national honor was given to schools that created "green" environments through reducing their environmental impact, promoting health and ensuring a high-quality environmental and outdoor education.

Tuskegee and Alabama State EPA Partnership Agreements – Tuskegee University and Alabama State University entered agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency to support campus greening and sustainability. Both memorandums of understanding support enhanced environmental policy, science curricula and opportunities for students interested in environmental careers.

Legacy Partners in Education 2012 Accomplishments – Celebrating their 20th year, Legacy, the environmental education program created from sale of car tags, continued to award environmental education scholarships and grants, and hold teacher workshops and Enviro Bowls across the state. Here are some of the numbers:

- Twelve (12) competitive and mini-grants were given to schools and organizations totaling \$83,835 in 2012.
- Seven (7) Scholarships totaling \$7,000 were presented to students.
- Five (5) Environmental Educator Workshops, lasting 3-8 days were attended by 100 educators.
- Forty-three (43) high school aged Enviro Bowl teams participated statewide in Florence, Jacksonville, Dothan, Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Mobile. The finals were held in Birmingham.



Phil Campbell Rededicates Outdoor Classroom – More than 16 months after the April 27th, 2011 tornadoes destroyed the Phil Campbell Elementary School, the students and community rededicated the outdoor classroom, fixing the roof to the gazebo and replacing the trees.

Three Southern Environmental Center EcoScapes Dedicated – Birmingham Southern College's Southern Environmental Center dedicated three EcoScapes in 2012. They are:

- Sims EcoScape in Homewood
- Tarrant EcoScape in Tarrant
- Riley Travelick EcoScape in Birmingham



Mobile Bay Estuary Corps Launched – In 2012, the Alabama Coastal Foundation launched the Mobile Bay Estuary Corps in collaboration with Mobile Bay NEP and the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. The Corps creates hands-on learning experiences for middle school students while providing insight into prospective career fields in science, habitat management and restoration of the estuarine environment.

Gulf Coast Bay Buddy Program Increased 40% - In 2011-2012 school year, the Alabama Coastal Foundation's Gulf Coast Bay Buddy environmental education program increased 40% over the previous year. The Bay Buddy program teaches K-4th grade students the importance of water quality, healthy beaches, wetland and coastal conservation.

Birding Observation Deck in Alabaster - Birmingham Audubon Society, in partnership with the City of Alabaster, dedicated a new birding Observation Deck at Limestone Park in August, 2012. Limestone Park is a 'Magnet Site' on the Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail because of its outstanding abundance and variety of birds. The park's combination of wetlands, grasslands, and Tupelo gum swamp is good for wading birds, swamp and marsh birds, grassland species, and some waterfowl in winter, as well as songbirds and shorebirds in migration. The new, handicapped-accessible Birding Observation Deck overlooks the wetlands on the north-western side of the park.

GRCA Clover Crawl 2012 – The Green Resources Center for Alabama held the annual Clover Crawl Garden Home and Garden Expo in late March at the Vulcan Park and Museum in Birmingham. More than 20 vendors presented the latest green products and services. Save-the-date for Clover Crawl 2013 on March 30 from 1-4 pm.

Talladega Mountains Nature Center Opens – In November 2012, the Talladega Mountains Natural Resource Center, a partnership between Jacksonville State University, the Cleburne County Commission and U.S. Forest Service opened its doors. The Mountain Center will house the JSU Field Schools and will act as a visitor center to one of the highest concentration of nationally protected natural areas in the east.

Picnic for the Planet Earth Day 2012 – The Nature Conservancy of Alabama held the largest "Picnic for the Planet" event in the country on Earth Day with close to 2000 picnickers. Over 50 sponsor-decorated picnic tables were on display.

Green Resource Center for Alabama's 2012 Brown Bag Series – In 2012, the Green Resource Center for Alabama held their inaugural Brown Bag Lunch and Learn Series in the Birmingham area. The free seminars included topics ranging from sustainable landscape plans and green building jobs for Alabama. Over 200 people attended the seminar series.



Green Buildings and Green Communities

LEED “Green Buildings” 2012 List – Today, there are 87 LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified projects in Alabama, along with 154 LEED registered projects currently pursuing certification.

Below is the list of LEED Certified buildings and their certification level in 2012:

- APCO Employee Credit Union – Birmingham - Silver
- BBVA Compass – The Grove – Hoover - Gold
- Calhoun Highway Department Complex – Anniston - Certified
- JSU Little River Canyon Center – Fort Payne – Silver
- Huntsville IRS Building – Huntsville - Gold
- 1 Commerce Street, Montgomery - Certified
- Verizon Wireless Store, Tillman Corners - Silver
- Huntsville Housing Authority’s Gateway – Huntsville
- University of West Alabama – Hoover Apartments - Silver
- Urban Assault Course – Fort McClellan – Silver
- Seafood Waste Processing Plant – Bayou LeBatre – Gold
- Dauphin Island Water Treatment Plant – Silver
- University of South Alabama Dining Hall - Silver
- Johnston Residence – Point Clear

UAB Green Roof Saves 20-25% in Utility Expenses – A green roof installed on the Hulsey Center Building at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2012 is saving between 20-25 % in utility expenses according to UAB administrators. The green roof is also designed to catch rainwater and delay its release to minimize the potential for flooding.

Monte Sano – Alabama’s First Certified Community Wildlife Habitat – On Earth Day 2012, the mountain community of Monte Sano in Huntsville became the first certified Community Wildlife Habitat in Alabama by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). According to NWF, to be a certified habitat, a location must provide food and clean water for wildlife, create cover for animals’ protection and provide a place for them to raise their young. The Flint River Conservation Association and the Monte Sano Civic Association led the certification efforts.

Solar Power Charge 10 Cars at Auburn University – Auburn University Facilities Management, in partnership with the Office of Sustainability has funded a pilot project for the installation of 24 solar panels on campus at the stadium parking deck. The solar panel system is capable of producing 6.6 kilowatts of power per day or about 13,250 kilowatt-hours a year of electrical energy. The solar system will be used to charge 10 electric vehicles on campus.

2000 Trees To Be Planted in Downtown Montgomery – Montgomery Trees, a local urban forestry advocacy group, in collaboration with the city of Montgomery’s Urban Forestry Division will plant approximately 2000 deciduous trees in the downtown Montgomery area over the next five years.





Parks, Trails and Recreation

Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System Unveiled in Jefferson County – In Birmingham, the Red Rock Ridge & Valley Trail System, a visionary plan connecting Jefferson County together with a network of bike lanes, sidewalks, and greenways was unveiled in 2012. The plan includes as many as 250 miles of proposed greenways and trails and 500 miles of street based bicycle and pedestrian paths. Trails would connect scenic attractions from Ruffner Mountain to Railroad Park and Red Mountain Parks.

Alabama Scenic River Trail Named National Water Trail – In the summer of 2012, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar named the Alabama Scenic River Trail a National Water Trail. The trail begins where the Coosa River enters Alabama just northeast of Cedar bluff, and continues down the Coosa River to the confluence with the Tallapoosa near Wetumpka. From this connection, the trail follows the Alabama River to its junction with the Tombigbee/Warrior River system just north of Mobile. It then proceeds through the Mobile River and Tensaw – Mobile Delta and its tributaries to Mobile Bay.

Birmingham’s Railroad Park Named Nation’s Best – The Urban Land Institute awarded Birmingham’s Railroad Park its prestigious Urban Open Space Award edging out parks in New York City, Portland and Calgary for the honor.

14 National Trails Designated in Alabama – The National Park Service and the USDA Forest Service designated 14 Alabama trails in 2012 as National Recreation Trails. They include:

Alabama State Lands Bartram Canoe Trail, Blevins Gap Nature Preserve Trail System, Dauphin Island Audubon Bird Sanctuary Trail System, Goose Pond Colony Nature and Walking Trail, Monte Sano Nature Preserve Trail System, Oak Mountain Red Trail, Scottsboro City Park Trail System, Sokol Park Mountain Bike Trail System, The Forever Wild Coon Creek Trail System, The Forever Wild Freedom Hills, Trail System, The Forever Wild Shoal Creek Preserve Trail System, The Forever Wild Walls of Jericho Trail System, The Forever Wild Wehle Trail System, and Wade Mountain Nature Preserve Trail System.

Fourteen of the 54 trails designated nationwide this year were in Alabama.

Lillian Boat Launch Opened in Baldwin County – In 2012, the \$2.1 million Lillian Boat Launch and Park opened for public use in Baldwin County. The 5.3 -acre recreational area provides access to fishing and boating. The project was made possible by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program.

Forever Wild’s Coldwater Mountain Bike Trail Opened – On June 1st, 2012, the State Lands Division and several partnering organizations opened a new public access road, trailhead and biking trails on the Forever Wild Coldwater Mountain Doug Ghee Nature Preserve and Recreation Area in Calhoun County. The multi-year project will consist of 11 miles of trail in two loops.

Three Additional Birding Trails Dedicated in Alabama – Joining Alabama’s five Birding Trails in North Alabama Coastal Alabama, three separate regional partnerships launched three additional Birding Trails in 2012 through a statewide project overseen by the University of Alabama Center for Economic Development and funded by the Alabama Department of Tourism. Here is a brief description of each trail:

Wiregrass Birding Trail – Officially launched on November 2nd in Eufaula, Alabama the newly developed trail contains 20 different locations, covering Barbour, Bullock, Pike, Crenshaw, Covington, Coffee, Dale, Henry, Geneva and Houston counties.

West Alabama Birding Trail – Launched this fall in Pickensville, Alabama at the Tom Bevil Visitor Center, the West Alabama Trail covers eight counties, including Tuscaloosa, Bibb, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Marion, Pickens and Walker.

Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail – Beginning in Birmingham and reaching Little River Canyon in Dekalb County, the Appalachian Highlands Birding Trail was dedicated this fall at the Canyon Center in Fort Payne.



Greenwood Park in Birmingham Established – Contemplated by the Olmstead Plan published in 1925 for the city of Birmingham, Greenwood Park in North Birmingham was completed in November 2012. The 34 acre park, which was established as part of an environmental settlement with McWane, Inc. includes a 3,600 foot long walking trail that meanders through a constructed wetland.

Freedom Riders Park Groundbreaking – In October 2012, civil rights and local civic leaders broke ground at the location where the Freedom Riders Anniston “Bus Burning” occurred 51 years earlier. The 4 acre site has been named Freedom Riders Park, will serve as a place for education and reflection.

Dothan Spends \$100,000 on Energy Efficiency Streetlights – In Spring 2012, the city of Dothan installed energy efficient LED streetlights in an effort to save the city long term savings. The project was made possible through a Department of Energy grant.

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The Green Resource Center for Alabama (GRCA) would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who contributed to the 2012 Green Progress Report. This marks the fifth year of the report and we are proud to say that our report continues to grow, which is a direct result of the growth of sustainability in the state.

The GRCA is an all volunteer, non-profit organization whose mission is to share wise, social and economical environmental practices inspiring people to action. We rely on grants and donations to fund projects such as the The Green Progress Report. For more information on the GRCA or to make a donation, please visit our website at [www. greenalabama.org](http://www.greenalabama.org) or email us at info@greenalabama.org. All donations are tax deductible.

Sincerely,



2012 Board President

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ADEM Cleaned Up 168 of Illegal Solid Waste Dumps – Submitted by ADEM

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Phil Campbell Rededicates Outdoor Classroom <http://www.franklincountytimes.com/2012/09/12/outdoor-classroom-rededicated>

Three Southern Environmental Center EcoScapes Dedicated <http://www.bsc.edu/sec/ecoscape/index.cfm>

LEED "Green Buildings" 2012 <http://www.gbci.org/main-nav/building-certification/registered-project-list.aspx>

UAB Green Roof Saves 20-25% in Utility Expenses <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/reporter/articles/72396/>

Monte Sano – Alabama's First Certified Community Wildlife Habitat http://blog.al.com/breaking/2012/04/monte_sano_named_alabamas_firs.html

Solar Power Charge 10 Cars at Auburn University http://ocm.auburn.edu/featured_story/solar_panels.html

2000 Trees Planted in Downtown Montgomery Alabama – Submitted by Montgomery Planning Department

Red Ridge and Valley Trail System Unveiled in Jefferson County <http://www.redrock-trail.org/>

Alabama Scenic River Trail Named National Water Trail <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Designates-National-Water-Trails-in-Alabama-Georgia-and-Missouri.cfm>

Birmingham's Railroad Park Named Nation's Best <http://www.abc3340.com/story/20104488/railroad-park-wins-national-award>



14 National Trails Designated in Alabama <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/AMERICAS-GREAT-OUTDOORS-Salazar-Jarvis-Announce-Designation-of-54-New-National-Recreation-Trails.cfm>

Lillian Boat Launch Opened in Baldwin County http://blog.al.com/live/2012/02/baldwin_opens_21_million_lilli.html

Forever Wild's Coldwater Mountain Bike Trail Opened <http://www.outdooralabama.com/news/release.cfm?ID=1042>

Three Additional Birding Trails Dedicated in Alabama <http://www.alabamabirdingtrails.com/>

Freedom Riders Park Groundbreaking http://www.jsu.edu/epic/freedom_riders_park.html

Dothan Spends \$100,000 on Energy Efficiency Streetlights http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/morning_call/2012/02/dothan-spend-100kenergy-efficient-lights.html

Birding Observation Deck in Alabaster <http://www.alabamabirdingtrails.com/sites/limestone-park/>

Huntsville Botanical Garden's Green Parking Garden <http://www.hsvbg.org/index.php?mainID=9&subID=33&sub2ID=&type=news&typeID=3>

TVA Green Power Switch Program Honors Huntsville - http://www.tva.com/news/releases/aprjun12/gps_honors.html

Rain Barrel Workshops – Submitted by the Alabama Clean Water Partnership

Greenwood Park in North Birmingham Established – http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2012/11/greenwood_park_opens_to_the_pu.html

Gulf Coast Bay Buddy Program Increased 40% <http://www.joinacf.org>

Magnolia Spring Living Shoreline - http://www.townofmagnoliasprings.org/files/CCF04262012_00000.pdf

Mobile Baykeeper Swimming Guide App <http://www.mobilebaykeeper.org/programs/swim-guide.html>

Talladega Mountains Nature Center Opens <http://www.alabamabirdingtrails.com/sites/talladega-mountains-natural-resource-center/>

Picnic for the Planet Earth Day 2012 http://blog.al.com/wire/2012/04/birmingham-picnic_in_the_park.html

Endangered Species Found in Cahaba River After Dam Removed <http://www.fws.gov/south-east/SHC/stories/SHCMobileRiverBasin.html>

GRCA Clover Crawl 2012 http://www.greenalabama.org/?page_id=474

Green Resource Center for Alabama's 2012 Brown Bag Series http://www.greenalabama.org/?page_id=320



clovercrawl green home & garden expo 2013

Birmingham, Alabama

Vulcan® Park and Museum

Saturday March 30 10 am - 4 pm

**Free and Open
to Everyone!**



See some of the latest trends in green products and services for your home, office and garden.

- Food
- Kids Activities
- Music
- Electronics Recycling
- Paper Shredding

Go to www.greenalabama.org or www.visitvulcan.com for more information.



BROWN BAG: LUNCH & LEARN

Winter 2013



GREEN RESOURCE CENTER
FOR ALABAMA

“Sustainable Living 101”

Bring your lunch and come join the Green Resource Center for Alabama & Birmingham Botanical Gardens for FREE informational seminars. No reservations required.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Time: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Free and open to the public. Drinks and dessert provided.

To Prune or Not to Prune

January 23, Auditorium

Learn the correct way and right time of year to prune and fertilize your plants and trees.

Instructor: **Fred Spicer**, Executive Director, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Spring into Cleaning with Recycling

February 13, Ireland Room

From purchase to purge, identify free disposal methods for many household items and discover how to reduce the amount of daily waste you generate.

Instructor: **Dana Gray**, Jefferson County Household Cooking Oil & Grease Recycling Program

Instructor: **Alan Gurganus**, Recycling Director, Alabama Environmental Council

Four Legged Gardening

March 27, Auditorium

Discover how to create a safe space for your pets by learning the difference between pet friendly and unfriendly plants.

Instructor: **Sallie Lee**, Jefferson County Extension Agent, ACES

Presented in partnership with



BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

enhancing life with plants

GREEN RESOURCE CENTER FOR ALABAMA
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Go Native with 21st Century Landscaping

April 17, Auditorium

See how you can bring innovative mobile technology to your front door with an emphasis on native plants

Instructor: **Andrew Cole-Tyson**, (Mobile)Land & Garden Design

Mow, Blow, Eco!

May 22, Ireland Room

No gas required! Try out some battery operated equipment that has the power to get the job done

Instructor: **Lee Higginbotham**, Advance Mowers

Mild to Wild in < 24 Hours

June 26, Auditorium

Find out how to travel with sustainability in mind to some of Alabama's most beautiful destinations

Instructor: **Jay Grantland**, Alabama Eco Adventures

Presented in partnership with



BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

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GREEN RESOURCE CENTER FOR ALABAMA
www.greenalabama.org



GRCA Sponsorship Opportunities

MEMBERSHIP

Opportunity to support sustainability in Alabama

Benefits include the following:

- o Opportunity to support sustainability in Alabama
- o Access to educational seminars
- o Program and event notification
- o Access to Green Resources
- o Green Tips emails
- o GRCA Newsletter
- o Network Opportunities

DUES: \$35.00 Annually

MOSS SPONSOR

Benefits include the following:

- o Membership for your company for up to two representatives
- o Recognition as a Moss sponsor on the GRCA website
- o Free listing in the website green business directory
- o Access to educational seminars
- o Green Tips emails
- o GRCA Newsletter
- o Program and event notification

MOSS SPONSORSHIP \$250

FOREST SPONSOR

Includes the benefits as Moss Sponsor plus:

- o Membership for your company for up to four representatives.
- o Community Sponsor for annual Clover Crawl Event:
 - Company name and/or logo to appear in select promotional materials and in-kind media.
 - Company name and/or logo featured on GRCA's website & onsite event signage.
 - Company will receive a 50% discount off the exhibitor booth fee.
 - Company will have the opportunity to include information or promotional product in recyclable bag distributed on site day of event (1 bag per family).
 - Company will receive 5 tickets for general admission to Vulcan Park and Museum to distribute to clients or staff to be used the day of event or during regular park hours throughout 2013.

FOREST SPONSORSHIP \$500





EMERALD SPONSOR

Includes the benefits of the Forest Sponsor plus:

- o Membership as a Sponsor of the GRCA for your company and for up to six company representatives
- o Recognition as an Emerald Sponsor on the GRCA website with a link to your company's website
- o Presenting Sponsor for annual Clover Crawl Event:
 - Company name and/or logo to appear first and most prominent on all promotional materials , event signage and all in-kind media
 - Company name and/or logo and website link will be featured on GRCA and Vulcan Park and Museum's website and promotional email announcements sent out prior to event
 - Company may have a complimentary 10 x 10 exhibitor booth
 - Acknowledgement in GRCA's social media promotions including facebook and twitter
 - Opportunity to include information or promotional product in recyclable bag distributed to guests during event (1 bag per family)
 - Company will receive 25 general admission tickets to Vulcan Park and Museum to distribute to clients or staff to be used the day of event or during regular park hours throughout 2013

EMERALD SPONSORSHIP \$1,000

To find out how you can become a sponsor, email us at info@greenalabama.org or go to our website at www.greenalabama.org.





Our Mission Statement

To share wise social, economic and environmental practices
inspiring people to action!

Our Vision Statement

To be recognized as the central resource and connection point for green
resources, events and information in Alabama.

Our Values

We value a process that is inclusive, collaborative, and accessible.

We value sensible and practical methods to achieving
environmental, economical, and social goals.

We value leading by example and employing methodologies that are
results-oriented.

We value education and empowerment through learning and sharing.

We seek to collaborate with other organizations to further the mission of helping others
achieving their sustainability goals.

Our Strategies

To collaborate, convene and educate.





© Beth Maynor Young



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www.greenalabama.org

