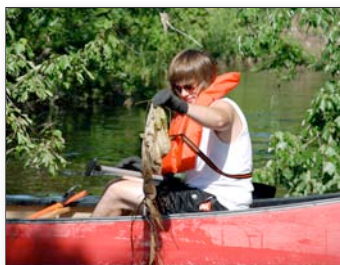


4th Annual Renew Our Rivers

May 13-16, 2009



Mississippi Power's Renew Our Rivers program is one of the state's premiere, national award-winning environmental stewardship programs, partnering with corporate, national, regional and community volunteers to help make waterways cleaner and pristine. More than 680 volunteers participated last year.



Wednesday, May 13
Back Bay, Biloxi &
Tchoutacabouffa Rivers

Thursday, May 14
Pascagoula River, Escatawpa

Friday, May 15
Fort Bayou, Ocean Springs

Saturday, May 16
Turkey Creek & Brickyard Bayou,
Gulfport

Okatoma Creek, Sanford
Chunky River, Enterprise

*Clean-up celebrations will be held for
all volunteers in respective areas.*

Contact Flinda Hill at (228) 897-6402 to sign up as a volunteer or a sponsor.

Goals for this Southeast Mississippi event continue to be:

...Collect more trash and debris.

In the three years of Renew Our Rivers more than 98 tons of debris, much of it deposited in rivers and on shores by Hurricane Katrina, was removed from local waterways. Since Hurricane Gustav in 2008, additional storm debris now litters these waterways.

...Incorporate more Southeast Mississippi waterways.

This is the first year to incorporate a Fort Bayou waterway in Ocean Springs. In addition, Renew Our Rivers is once again partnering with the Turkey Creek Community Initiatives group for a cleanup along its namesake watershed. The Turkey Creek estuary was recognized in 2001 as one of Mississippi's Ten Most Endangered Historical Places.

...Engage more corporate/community partners and volunteers

Once again, national environmental activist Chad Pregracke of Living Lands & Waters will participate in Renew Our Rivers. Chad and his team of volunteers bring boat loads of enthusiasm for cleaning our waterways, as well as a fleet of boats that serves well in hauling large debris. In addition, Alabama Power will return for the fourth year, bringing their barges and crane, as well as volunteers.

...Educate the public on the protection and preservation of the precious natural resources in our area.

In partnership with Keep Mississippi Beautiful, thousands of "Message in the Bottle - A River Adventure" coloring books and lesson plans are being distributed and successfully used in K-3rd grade classrooms throughout the state. The mission is to educate early.

Mississippi Power, a Southern Company, serves more than 186,000 customers in the 23 counties of southeast Mississippi.

Renew Our Rivers is a Southern Company-wide initiative that – since the program's first clean up in 2000 – has resulted in more than 8.6 million pounds of debris being pulled from waterways in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida. This is one of the largest river systems cleanup efforts in the Southeast and winner of numerous awards.

The past two years, Mississippi Power received the national Keep America Beautiful Award for Beautification & Community Improvement for its Renew Our Rivers efforts.





In 2008, Mississippi Power and its Renew Our Rivers Partners collected almost 29 tons of trash and debris to preserve and protect our invaluable waterways.

Alabama Power • American Association of Blacks in Energy • Beau Rivage
School and Carnival Supplies • CDM • Chicken Daddy and the Hot Wings Band • City of Biloxi
Coast Electric Power Association • Coast Young Professionals • Coca Cola, Co. • Cumbest Reality
Cupit Signs • Mississippi Department of Marine Resources • Domino's Pizza • Eco-Tours of South MS
Empress Audio & Marine • Grand Bay NERR • Guild Hardy Architects, PA • Gulf Coast Research Lab
Gulf Islands Water Park • Gulf Regional Planning Commission • Hancock Bank • Hancock County McLeod Park
Hancock County Road Department • Hard Rock Casino • Harrison County • Harrison County Beautification Commission
Harrison County Engineering • Harrison County Sherriff's Department • Hollywood Casino • Jackson County Solid Waste
Jourdan River Resort & Yacht Club • Keep Mississippi Beautiful • Little River Marina • Living Lands and Waters
Matthews Marine • McAlister's Deli • McCoy's River & Marsh Tours • MDEQ - Coast OPC • Merchants & Marine Bank
Miller Enterprises • MS Export Railroad • MS Outdoor Club • NOAA Fisheries • North Gulfport Community Land Trust
Okatoma Canoe Rentals • Pascagoula River Basin Alliance • Phillip Moris • Prime Outlets Gulfport
Roberts Marina • S.H. Anthony, Inc. • Sassy's Restaurant • Southern Company Services
Sherwin Williams • The Corps Network-Gulf Coast Conservation Corps • The Dock Bar and Grill
Timberland • Turkey Creek Community Initiative • U.S. Environmental Services
Waste Management, Inc. • Whitney Bank • Wolf River Canoe & Kayak

