



Fresh from Florida

Ag-UPDATE

Suwannee Partnership Helps Others "Spring" Into Action

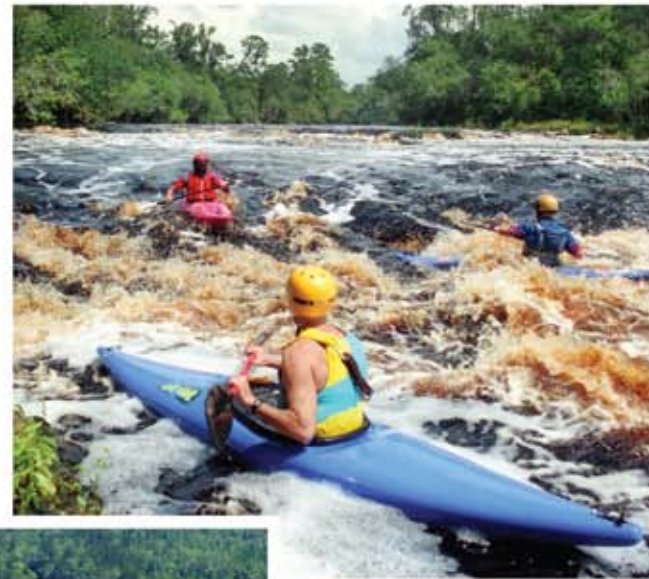
Spring is upon us and each year thousands of citizens and tourists enjoy tubing, swimming, or canoeing the cool, clear waters of the Suwannee and other north Florida regions.

North Florida springs have a rich history but, what of their future? Increasing growth and popularity can result in erosion and pollution. However, for the concerned spring enthusiast there is hope.

Using the Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) as a successful model for environmental protection, local leaders in Columbia County joined with members of the SRP to form the Ichetucknee Partnership. The Ichetucknee Partnership is vigorously organizing localized events to protect the spring-fed Ichetucknee River.

Already specific campaigns are underway to help the Ichetucknee River and citizens can easily participate in these programs. Commitments from local governments, industry, and residents, create an impressive model for similar organizations to follow.

The Suwannee River Partnership is dedicated to helping communities develop and strengthen partnerships to defend and preserve our water. With over sixty state, federal, and private partners the Suwannee River Partnership has created research based best management practices and voluntary programs that assist private industry, residents, and agriculturists to manage waste and water. Their participation rates continue to increase and the formation of the Ichetucknee Partnership offers promise that our springs will be enjoyed by future generations.



Dear Florida Agriculture Industry Volunteer,

The Florida Agriculture Promotional Campaign (FAPC) also known as "Fresh from Florida," promotes more than 280 Florida agricultural commodities through a variety of promotions including the Suwannee River Partnership. Please help us create awareness about Florida's natural resources and how important they are to Florida agriculture. The agriculture industry is actively protecting and preserving our water resources through the use of best management practices. Find out how you can spring into action by calling 386-362-0431 or visit www.suwannee.org.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Bronson

Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner of Agriculture

www.Florida-Agriculture.com

