

# Friends of GA Power Plant Bowen & Plant Hammond Infiltration Garden @ Neel's Landing April 27, 2018



Renew our Rivers

- In a joint project with Keep Bartow Beautiful, Keep

Rome Floyd County Beautiful and Friends of Georgia Power (Plant Bowen and Plant Hammond) volunteers created an *Infiltration Garden* at Neel's Landing canoe/kayak boat launch on Hwy 411 and Macedonia Road in Bartow County. The site is part of the Etowah River Water Trail that benefits both Bartow and Floyd Counties economically by providing affordable recreational opportunities that are drawing visitors who are both local and non local. The garden will not only enhance the look of the site but will help slow down the storm water that occurs during rainfall. Both the parking lot and the extreme bank on the 411 Hwy side of the site drains a lot of water into the existing bio-swale. The plants used are soil stabilizing species that are also known native species. One, the button bush, is in fact, both a native species and a native pollinator as well. Other plants used were:

American Beauty Berry (***Callicarpa Americana***), Sweet

Flag (***Acorus calamus***.) Swamp Milkweed (***Asclepios incarnate***) and Swamp Hibiscus (***Hibiscus coccineus***). A maple tree was planted at the apex of the hill which will provide shade to the site. Twenty seven (27)

volunteers participated in the project including Ga Power employees and staff from KRFB and KBB. Keep Bartow Beautiful will later use the site as a demonstration garden by installing educational signage explaining the benefits of Rain Gardens. Because they increase the amount of water that infiltrates into the ground, they help to recharge local and regional aquifers. They help to control flooding and drainage problems protecting streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban stormwater – lawn fertilizers and pesticides, oil and other fluids that leak from cars, and numerous harmful substances that wash off roofs and paved areas. They enhance the beauty of yards and neighborhoods while providing valuable habitat for birds, butterflies and many beneficial insects.



Volunteers install soil stabilizing

