

THE ATLANTA
REGION'S
PLAN



REGIONAL RESOURCE PLAN

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Regional Resource Plan Executive Summary

The Purpose. Pursuant to Rules of the Department of Community Affairs, Chapter 110-12-4, Regionally Important Resources are defined as “*any natural or cultural resource area identified for protection by a Regional Commission following the minimum requirements established by the Department.*” The Regional Resource Plan is designed to

- Enhance the focus on protection and management of important natural and cultural resources in the Atlanta region.
- Provide for careful consideration of, and planning for, impacts of new development on these important resources.
- Improve local, regional, and state level coordination in the protection and management of identified resources.

The Process. The public nomination process in 2009 resulted in over 150 nominations from local governments, non-profit agencies, and private citizens. Many of these nominations included multiple resources, resulting in the consideration of hundreds of individual resources. Beyond the nomination process, numerous opportunities were created for stakeholder input through plan briefings and presentations. After reviewing all nominations, researching the work of other local, state, and federal agencies, and considering input from regional stakeholders, three categories of resources were identified.

- Areas of Conservation and/or Recreational Value
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Areas of Scenic and/ or Agricultural Value

Using DCA’s Rules for Regionally Important Resources, as well as six criteria approved by the ARC Board, resources were evaluated in regard to their *Value and Vulnerability* within the context of the Atlanta Region. Consideration is also given to *Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices* and *General Policies and Protection Measures* to promote the stewardship of these resources. To this end, ARC has identified general *Management Strategies* to guide its involvement in the stewardship of these resources and support the work of local governments in developing their community green infrastructure network.

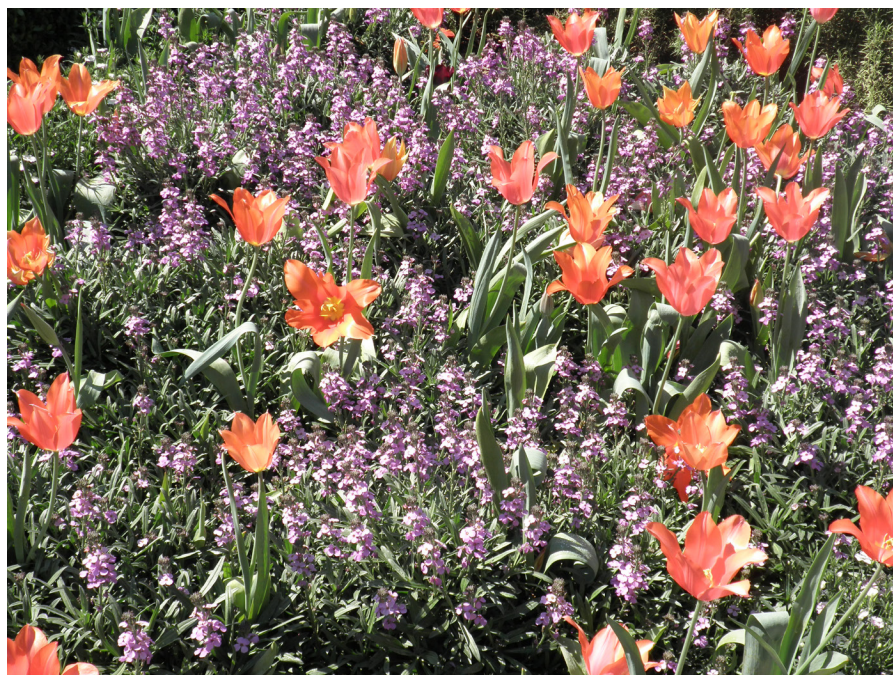
The Plan. Ultimately, the plan will be used to “*...coordinate activities and planning of local governments, land trusts and conservation or environmental protection groups’ activities in the region, and state agencies toward protection and management of the identified Regionally Important Resources.*”¹ In addition to the work that ARC has done with mapping the Region’s Greenspace Inventory and developing a Green Infrastructure Toolkit, the Regional Resources Plan furthers the work being done on the local, regional, state and federal levels to preserve environmental resources, historic sites, and unique cultural landscapes. With the articulated goal of fostering a continuous green infrastructure network², the Regional Resource Plan promotes balanced growth and sustainable development practices to enhance the quality of life in communities throughout the region.

¹ Rules of the Department of Community Affairs, Chapter 110-12-4, *Regionally Important Resources*, §110-12-4-.01(2)(d)

² Ibid., §112-12-4-.02(2)(a)5

Summary of Resources

Areas of Conservation and/ or Recreational Value	
State Vital Areas	Large Water Supply Watersheds
	Small Water Supply Watersheds
	Groundwater Recharge Areas
	Wetlands
	River Corridors
	Mountain Protection
Regional Reservoirs	Lake Allatoona
	Lake Lanier
National Park Service Sites	Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
	Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
	Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area
	Panola Mountain National Natural Landmark
State Parks and Other Recreation Areas	Panola Mountain State Park
	Sweetwater Creek State Park
	Stone Mountain
	Allatoona Wildlife Management Area
	Pine Log Wildlife Management Area
	McGraw Ford Wildlife Management Area
	Lake Allatoona USACE Property



ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS / CREDIT: ARC

Summary of Resources

Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails	Big Creek Greenway
	Lionel Hampton Greenway
	Johns Creek Greenway
	Suwanee Creek Greenway
	Ivy Creek Greenway
	Camp Creek Greenway
	Western Gwinnett Greenway
	Silver Comet Trail
	Spring Road Trail
	Concord Road Trail
	Bob Callan Connector Trail
	Riverside Trail
	Lower Roswell Trail
	Bell Road Multi Use Trail
	Rogers Bridge Road Multi Use Trail
	State Bridge Road Multi Use Trail
	Atlanta Beltline Eastside Trail
	Atlanta Beltline Westside Trail
	Stone Mountain Trail
	Freedom Park Trail
	Arabia Mountain Trail
	Rockdale River Trail
Olde Town Conyers Trail	
Woodstock Greenprints Trail	
Peachtree City Path System	

Summary of Resources

Historic and Cultural Resources	
National Historic Landmarks	Georgia State Capitol
	MLK National Historic Site and District
	Sweet Auburn Historic District
	Herndon Mansion
	Wren's Nest – the Joel Chandler Harris House
	Fox Theatre
	Dixie Coca Cola Bottling Plant
National Historic Districts (94 Total)	
Olympic Legacy/ Centennial Olympic Park	
Civil War Battlefields and Sites	Ezra Church/ Battle of the Poor House
	Jonesborough
	Kennesaw Mountain
	Lovejoy's Station
	Peachtree Creek
	Utoy Creek
	Nash Farm Battlefield Park
	Shoupades/ Johnston River Line
	Camp McDonald Park
	Fort Walker
	Judge William Wilson House
	Concord Bridge Historic District and Heritage Park
	Jonesboro Confederate Cemetery
Marietta Confederate Cemetery	
Archaeological Sites	Soapstone Ridge
	Fort Daniel
Cemeteries	Oakland Cemetery
	Basket Creek Cemetery
	Marietta National Cemetery
	Decatur City Cemetery
	Westview Cemetery
	Southview Cemetery
Georgia National Cemetery	

Summary of Resources

Cultural Sites

National Archives – Southeast Region
Georgia State Archives
The Carter Center and the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum
Auburn Avenue Research Library
Monastery of the Holy Spirit
The Hindu Temple of Atlanta
Woodruff Arts Center
Pemberton Place



SOPE CREEK RUINS-CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA / CREDIT: ARC

Summary of Resources

Areas of Agricultural or Scenic Value	
Rural Preserves	North Fulton County
	South Fulton County
	Gwinnett County
	Western Cobb County
	North Cherokee County
	West Douglas County
	South Fayette County/ Clayton County Panhandle
Georgia Centennial Farms	AW Roberts Farm
	Lake Laura Gardens
	Moss Clark Farm
	Fieldstone Farm
	Rolling Acres Farm
	Gresham Galt Farm
	Mabry Farm
Alfarmina Farm	
Georgia Agritourism Sites	Rancho Alegre Farms
	Southern Belle Farms
	Yule Forest/ The Pumpkin Patch
	Adams Farm
	Gibbs Gardens
Designed Landscapes	The Spring at Kennesaw
	Archibald Smith Plantation Garden
	Barrington Hall
	Bulloch Hall
	Goodrum-Abreau House and Grounds
	Iris Garden
	Woodhaven (Georgia State Governor's Mansion)
	The Atlanta History Center Grounds
	Hartsfield Jackson International Airport Floral Clock
	Atlanta Botanical Gardens
	Lewis Vaughn Botanical Garden
	Claude T. Fortson Memorial Garden
Cator Woolford Gardens	
Callendwolde Park	

Summary of Resources

Infrastructure Linkages and Connections*	
Greenspace Linkages	Regional Bicycle Facility Network
	Regional Parks
	Urban Agriculture Sites
	Archaeological Linkages
	Cemeteries
Cultural Connections	Libraries
	Museums
	Theaters

*Infrastructure linkages and connections are not considered Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.



LOVEJOY CITY GARDEN / CREDIT: ARC

Regionally Important Resources Map

FIGURE 1

Regionally Important Resources

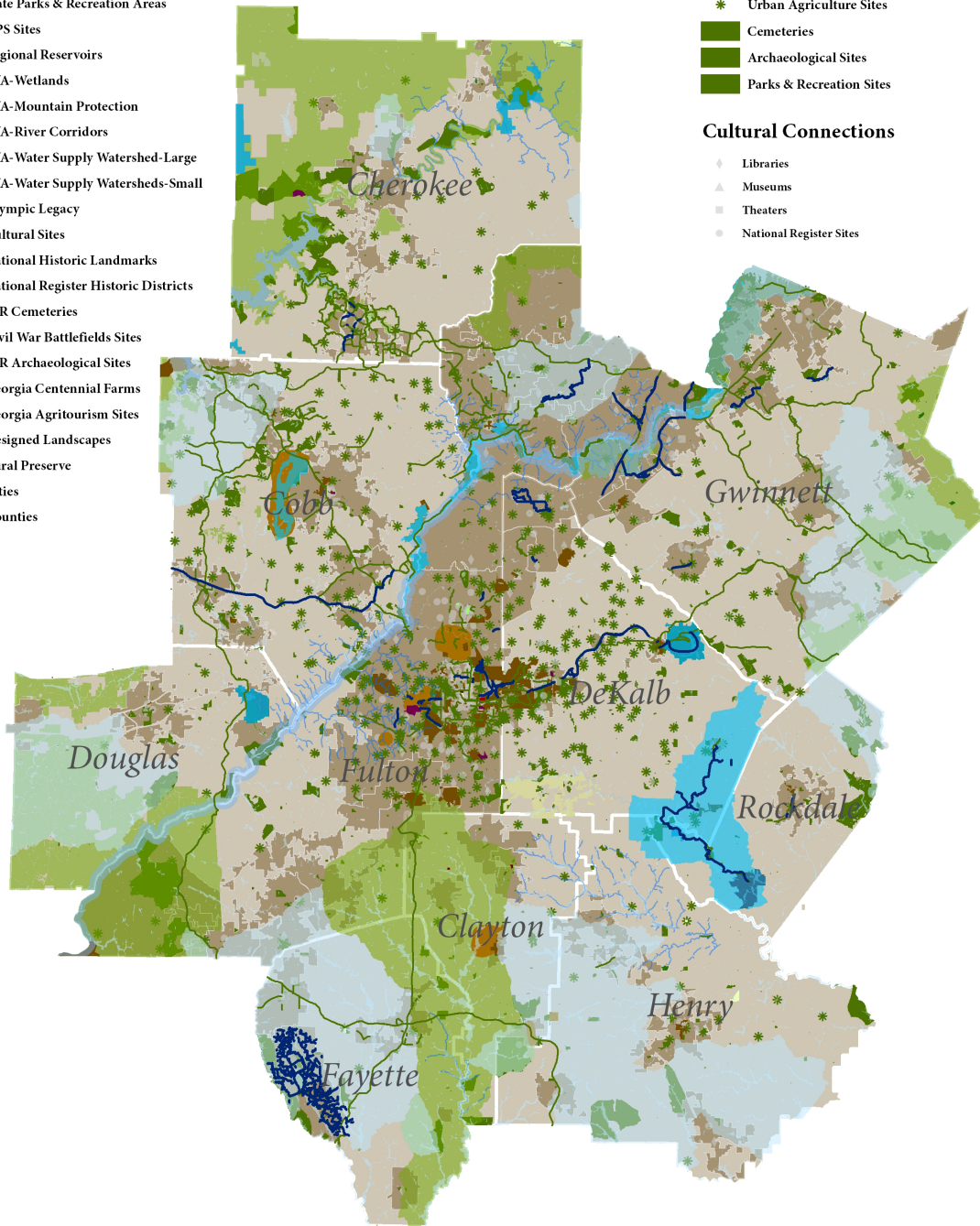
- Greenways & Trails
- State Parks & Recreation Areas
- NPS Sites
- Regional Reservoirs
- SVA-Wetlands
- SVA-Mountain Protection
- SVA-River Corridors
- SVA-Water Supply Watershed-Large
- SVA-Water Supply Watersheds-Small
- Olympic Legacy
- Cultural Sites
- National Historic Landmarks
- National Register Historic Districts
- RIR Cemeteries
- Civil War Battlefields Sites
- RIR Archaeological Sites
- Georgia Centennial Farms
- Georgia Agritourism Sites
- Designed Landscapes
- Rural Preserve
- Cities
- Counties

Green Infrastructure Network

- Bike Facility Network
- * Urban Agriculture Sites
- Cemeteries
- Archaeological Sites
- Parks & Recreation Sites

Cultural Connections

- ◇ Libraries
- ▲ Museums
- Theaters
- National Register Sites



Introduction

Background

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency created by the local governments in the Atlanta region pursuant to legislation passed by the Georgia General Assembly. As an area of greater than 1,000,000 in population, ARC has authority under state laws as both a Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission (MAPDC) and Regional Commission (RC).

ARC engages in a continuous program of research, study and planning of numerous matters affecting the Atlanta region. As a Regional Commission, ARC must prepare and adopt a Regional Plan to meet both federal transportation planning rules and also minimum standards and procedures for regional planning developed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). In 2008, DCA adopted revisions to Chapter 110-12-6, Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning, “Regional Planning Requirements.” ARC’s Regional Plan seeks to anticipate and apply comprehensive approaches to accommodate economic and population growth that will occur in the Atlanta region during the next 25 years.

Purpose of Identifying Regionally Important Resources

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs established new rules and procedures for the identification of Regionally Important Resources (RIR). The rules require the development of a plan for protection and management of regional resources and review of activities potentially impacting these resources. ARC is the agency charged with developing a Regional Resource Plan and RIR Map for the 10-county area of the Atlanta region (Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale Counties). In support of other agency initiatives ARC is also interested in resources identified in the additional 10 counties within the non-attainment area for air quality (Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Coweta, Forsyth, Hall, Newton, Paulding, Spalding, and Walton Counties). Generally, the focus of the plan is on the core 10-county area served by the ARC, with the exception of limited multi-jurisdictional resources that overlap the core boundary.

Designation of Regionally Important Resources

Pursuant to Rules of the Department of Community Affairs, Chapter 110-12-4, Regionally Important Resources are defined as “*any natural or cultural resource area identified for protection by a Regional Commission following the minimum requirements established by the Department.*” The Regional Resource Plan is designed to

- Enhance the focus on protection and management of important natural and cultural resources in the Atlanta region.
- Provide for careful consideration of, and planning for, impacts of new development on these important resources.
- Improve local, regional, and state level coordination in the protection and management of identified resources.

This plan will identify the methodology and process involved in selecting Regionally Important Resources. It will include a map of Regionally Important Resources, a brief narrative relating the values and vulnerabilities of each resource, as well as guidance for appropriate development practices and general policies, protection measures, and management strategies for identified resources. Ultimately, the plan will be used to “*...coordinate activities and planning of local governments, land trusts and conservation or environmental protection groups’ activities in the region, and state agencies toward protection and management of the identified Regionally Important Resources.*”

Introduction

Methodology and Process

The process for identifying Regionally Important Resources included a comprehensive approach, described below.

Nomination and Evaluation. ARC held a nomination process for potential resources to be included as Regionally Important Resources beginning in the fall of 2009. ARC made significant efforts to encourage local governments, non-profit organizations, citizens and the State of Georgia to submit nominations for potential inclusion in the Regionally Important Resources (RIR) map.

A nomination form was distributed to local governments and active non-profits engaged with issues related to potential regional resources (e.g. historical societies, land trusts, etc.). Additionally, ARC developed a specific nomination form that was hosted on the ARC web site that was geared toward generating nominations from the general public. This tool also allowed for the submission of photographs in support of nominations.

The public nomination process was opened on August 3, 2009 and remained open through the end of September 2009. **Over 150 nomination forms** were submitted. Many individual nomination forms referred to multiple resources, meaning that several hundred resources had been identified by stakeholders and citizens in the region. Nominations were considered against the criteria established by DCA and ARC as well as other factors. To reinforce the local support within a community, emphasis was placed on including resources that were nominated by a local government or other agency within their community. Certain **types** of resources were nominated throughout different communities, therefore the determination was made to include specific types of resources (i.e. all State and National Parks, all National Register Historic Districts, etc) throughout the region, even if not specifically nominated by a local agency.

There were instances in which it was difficult to classify a resource within a broad typology or rationalize how its inclusion could be equitably justified among the 10-county region. Without diminishing their local significance, ARC determined that rather than designate them as a Regionally Important Resources at this time, they could be included in the regional Greenspace Inventory. Since 2005, ARC has documented publicly accessible greenspace as a part of their overall regional planning efforts. This inventory includes many of the local sites, such as parks and historic features, nominated by local governments through this process. Individually, these resources may not rise to the level of classifying them as regionally important, however collectively, they may play a role in connecting the larger green infrastructure network throughout the region and state.

The Regional Resource Plan was adopted by the ARC Board in October 2010 as part of ARC's Regional Agenda, PLAN 2040. The Resolution to adopt the plan requires that, "...the Atlanta Regional Commission will use the PLAN 2040 Regional Resource Plan as the basic planning assumptions for these areas and review them annually to make changes to the documents to reflect current planning assumptions." During 2011, ARC continued to work with its internal committees and regional stakeholders to revise categories of RIRs to ensure consistency with current planning assumptions. A second call for nominations was distributed in August 2011 and responses informed the inclusion of several new categories of RIRs consistent with criteria set forth by both DCA and the ARC Board. Subsequent updates have added resources that fall within established categories, but have not created new categories of resources.

Introduction

Research and Data Collection. The rules promulgated by the Department of Community Affairs gave general direction in identifying potential resources.

1. Accept nominations by any individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency
2. Consider resources identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as State Vital Areas
3. Consider natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism
4. Consider natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations

GIS data used for conservation mapping was collected and analyzed as the foundation of the Regionally Important Resources Map. ARC staff also reviewed existing state and federal programs that document and manage significant natural and cultural resources, as well as activities undertaken by a variety of non-profit organizations working to further conservation goals of the natural and built environment.

Criteria for Determining Value of Regionally Important Resources. In addition to guidelines established within the DCA Rules, the ARC Board adopted six criteria to provide guidance in selecting resources that should be considered priorities.

1. Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc.
2. Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace
3. Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors
4. Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented
5. Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities
6. Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources

A Value Matrix was developed for each area identified as a Regionally Important Resource (Table 1). The Value Matrix measures the criteria proscribed by ARC and DCA against each category of Regionally Important Resource. This matrix will assist in prioritizing conservation activities by identifying which resources meet multiple criteria.

Introduction

Identification of Vulnerability of Regionally Important Resources. The criteria for determining Regionally Important Resources allows for a concise snapshot of the value of each resource to the Atlanta Region. In recognizing the value of these resources, consideration is also given to their potential vulnerabilities. Nominations included descriptions of the resource’s vulnerabilities and the degree to which the resource is threatened or endangered. Review of the nominations for each resource provided a similar snapshot in regard to vulnerability. Generally, threats to resources fell within three broad categories.

- *Development Pressures*
 - Threatened by destruction of subsurface resources, such as archaeological sites
 - Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use
 - Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use
 - Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed
- *Environmental Degradation*
 - Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity
 - Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants
 - Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows
 - Threatened by over-use of resource (i.e. inappropriate recreational use, too much traffic, etc)
- *Resource Management*
 - Lack of protection through adequate regulations or easements
 - Lack of enforcement of existing regulations
 - Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship
 - Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership

A Vulnerability Matrix was developed to identify the principle threat, or combination of threats, to each resource (Table 2). This matrix will help to organize mitigation measures for resources contending with multiple threats.

Stakeholder Review. Subsequent to determining the final draft plan of Regionally Important Resources in 2010, ARC convened five meetings across the region to discuss nominated resources and to gather additional input as to how resources should be evaluated. All parties that nominated resources were invited to attend the consultation meetings, as well as any local government that was impacted by a nomination.

The Regional Resource Plan was reviewed and approved internally by ARC’s Land Use Coordinating Committee and Environment and Land Use Committee prior to being approved by the ARC Board with a Resolution to transmit the Plan to DCA for review.

Introduction

Upon adoption ARC has implemented the promulgation of the Regional Resource Plan through various activities, including

- Informational meetings with regional stakeholders and interested parties
- Presentations to educational groups and other interested parties
- Ongoing data collection and documentation
- Review and comment for plans and projects that may impact RIRs

ARC's *Regional Plan Implementation Program* includes the agency's Short Term Work Program which identifies further activities to promulgate the Regional Resource Plan.

Identification of Regionally Important Resources

After giving consideration to the criteria for Regionally Important Resources identified by DCA and the ARC Board, as well as nominations for individual resources, the following categories were designed to broadly bracket the resources identified as regionally important.

- **Areas of Conservation or Recreational Value.** This broad classification identifies the core natural resources within the Atlanta Region, as well as sites that provide unique opportunities for environmental conservation, heritage preservation and recreation. Consideration was given to areas under management by state or federal agencies, and those that serve populations extending through the region and beyond. In general, this category focuses on large-scale amenities, whose boundaries are often multi-jurisdictional. Local parks and some trails are assumed to be of local significance and best preserved by action at the local level, and not included as a regional resource. However, many of these local resources are maintained on ARC's Greenspace Inventory, which is managed separately from the Regional Resources Plan.
- **Historic and Cultural Resources.** This broad classification focuses primarily on those resources that meet the benchmarks established by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, as well as other resources identified through State agencies that represent the unique history and heritage of Georgia. In general, individually identified historic or cultural resources are assumed to be of local significance, and best preserved by action at the local level. Individually identified resources that were nominated and supported by a local government or other nominating party have been included in the Plan when it was found they represented unique or transcendent historic or cultural value to the region. Individual resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places are included as Cultural Connections.
- **Areas of Agricultural and Scenic Value.** Though the Atlanta Region primarily includes urban and suburban patterns of development, the fact remains that many areas still reflect the character and aesthetic qualities of Georgia's agrarian roots. Local communities have recognized character areas within their communities that are intended to balance growth pressure with opportunities for rural preservation. Increasing demand for organic and locally grown food production creates new opportunities for agricultural land to remain economically viable without conversion to a more intensive use. These factors, as well as the pace of past development and the potential of future development, have made the recognition of these areas a priority. This category focuses on both site specific resources and broad boundaries of distinctive character within the Atlanta region.

Introduction

The Rules of the Department of Community Affairs also direct Regional Commissions to “include linkages between [mapped] resources to form, to the maximum feasible extent, a continuous regional green infrastructure network.”

Greenspace linkages within the Atlanta region include archaeological sites (mapped generally by Census Block), cemeteries, community parks, the regional bicycle facility network, and urban agriculture sites. Cultural Connections include libraries, museums and theaters. Taken collectively, these resources are not included as Regionally Important Resources and are not subject to any additional Guidance, Policies or Protection Measures. They do function as a backdrop to the Regionally Important Resources Map to form a continuous regional green infrastructure network.

The **Regionally Important Resources Map** (Figure 1) includes all of the resources in the region identified as having regional importance as defined by the criteria established by DCA and ARC. It is a compilation of all resources and identified at the regional scale. In addition to the map, Tables 1 and 2 provide a snapshot of the value and vulnerability of these resources, which are further explored in its supporting narrative. An illustration of the resource within the context of the larger Atlanta Region is provided for easier identification. **Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices** and **General Policies and Protection Measures** for Regionally Important Resources are included within the narrative.

- *Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices* is a listing of best practices to be considered by developers for designing new developments located within one mile of any area included on the Regionally Important Resources Map. The recommendations included within the *Guidance* section reflect broad management practices, but may not be appropriate for every type of development. ARC staff will use professional judgment to determine whether recommendations are applicable to a project under review within one mile of a Regionally Important Resource.
- *General Policies and Protection Measures* are targeted toward local governments that make decisions which affect Regionally Important Resources. Policy recommendations are supported by case studies and model ordinances, as appropriate.

To better qualify the role of ARC in supporting the long range development of the regional green infrastructure network, **Management Strategies** have been defined. ARC will adopt a system of advocacy whereby we either 1) continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of the resource or 2) continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of the resource, but will also actively work to facilitate appropriate conservation mechanisms and provide technical assistance for resource management and enhancement.

Regionally Important Resource Value Matrix

TABLE 1

Value Matrix for Regionally Important Resources RESOURCE	DCA Rules for Identification of Regionally Important Resources				Additional Criteria Adopted by ARC Board					
	Resource Nominated by an Individual, Interested Organization, Local Government/ Governmental Agency	Resource Identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as a State Vital Area	A Natural or Cultural Resource that is Already Preserved by an Existing Conservation Mechanism	A Natural or Cultural Resource Identified by Other State Agencies and/ or Environmental Protection Organization	Preserves Water Quality and Quantity by Protecting Drainage, Flood Control, Recharge Areas, Watersheds, Buffers, Etc.	Creates or Preserves Active or Passive Greenspaces, Including Trails, Gardens, and Informal Places of Natural Enjoyment in Areas Currently Underserved by Greenspaces	Preserves Wildlife Habitat by Creating, Buffering, Preserving Habitat Areas and Corridors	Preserves Areas That Have Historical or Cultural Value by Virtue of History, Place or Time Period Represented	Preserves Significant Working Agricultural or Forest Resources and/ or Creates Opportunities for Local Food Production Activities	Areas that Contribute to Region-wide Connections Between Existing and Proposed Regional Resources
AREAS OF CONSERVATION AND/ OR RECREATIONAL VALUE										
Water Supply Watersheds	X	X		X	X		X			X
Groundwater Recharge Areas										
Wetlands		X		X	X					X
River Corridors	X	X		X	X		X			X
Mountain Protection	X	X	X	X			X			X
Regional Reservoirs	X		X	X	X	X	X			X
Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails	X		X		X	X	X	X		X
National Park Service Sites	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	
State Parks and Other Recreation Areas	X		X	X		X	X		X	
HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES										
National Historic Landmarks	X			X				X		
National Register Historic Districts	X			X				X		X
Olympic Legacy	X							X		
Civil War Battlefields and Sites	X			X				X		X
Archaeological Sites	X		X			X		X		X
Cemeteries	X							X		X
Cultural Sites								X		
AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL AND/ OR SCENIC VALUE										
Rural Preserves	X					X	X		X	X
Georgia Centennial Farms				X		X		X	X	X
Georgia Agritourism Sites			X						X	X
Designed Landscapes	X			X		X	X		X	X

The Resource Narratives of this plan provide a description and additional information on the value and vulnerability of each Regionally Important Resource.

Regionally Important Resources Vulnerability Matrix

TABLE 2

Vulnerability Matrix for Regionally Important Resources RESOURCE	Development Pressures				Environmental Degradation				Resource Management			
	Threatened by destruction of subsurface resources such as archaeological sites	Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use	Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use	Destruction of significant viewshed	Adverse impact on wildlife/ Loss of biodiversity	Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants	Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows	Threatened by overuse of resource (i.e. inappropriate recreational use, too much traffic, etc)	Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/ or easements	Lack of enforcement of existing regulations	Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship	Lack of long term ownership plan/ transitional ownership
AREAS OF CONSERVATION AND/ OR RECREATIONAL VALUE												
Water Supply Watersheds					X	X	X			X		
Groundwater Recharge Areas												
Wetlands					X	X	X		X	X		
River Corridors					X	X	X		X	X		
Mountain Protection	X	X		X			X		X			
Regional Reservoirs					X	X	X				X	
Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails		X			X			X	X		X	X
National Park Service Sites	X		X	X	X		X	X			X	X
State Parks and Other Recreation Areas			X	X	X			X			X	X
HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES												
National Historic Landmarks		X	X								X	X
National Register Historic Districts		X	X	X					X			
Olympic Legacy											X	
Civil War Battlefields and Sites	X								X		X	X
Archaeological Sites	X		X						X	X		X
Cemeteries	X		X						X	X		X
Cultural Sites											X	
AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL AND/OR SCENIC VALUE												
Rural Preserves			X	X	X				X			
Georgia Centennial Farms		X	X	X					X			X
Georgia Agritourism Sites		X	X						X			
Designed Landscapes									X			

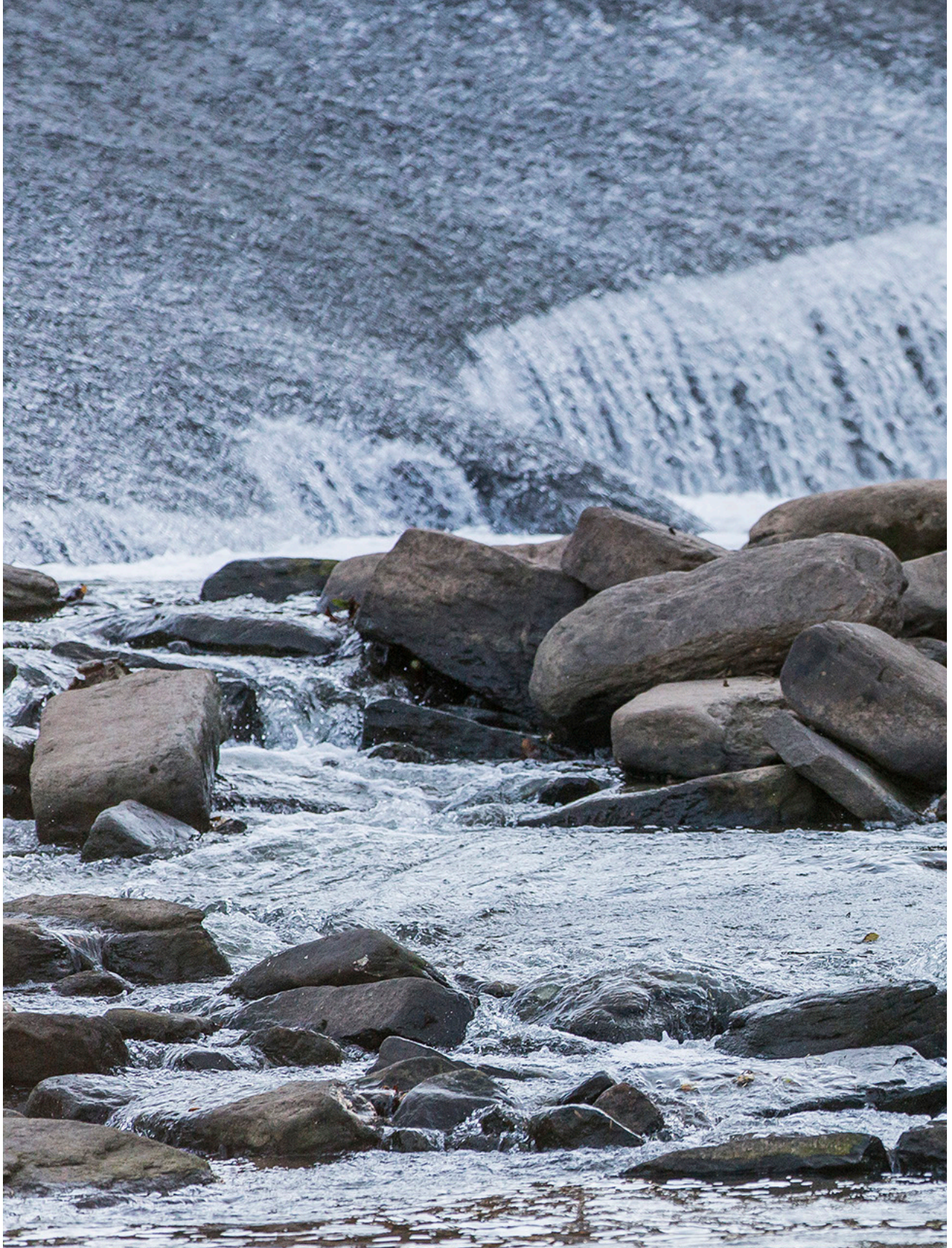
The Resource Narratives of this plan provide a description and additional information on the value and vulnerability of each Regionally Important Resource.

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Communities throughout the Atlanta Region place emphasis on the importance of conservation and recreation areas to maintain quality of life, health, and welfare. Within this plan, the foundation of natural resources planning has been the *Environmental Planning Criteria* for State Vital Areas. Defined in compliance with the 1989 Georgia Planning Act, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, these requirements govern water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, wetlands, river corridors and mountains. Development limitations mandated by the State provide a level of protection for these resources; several communities in the Atlanta Region have voluntarily adopted more stringent protections for water features than the minimum required by the state.

Beyond State Vital Areas, other natural resources have been managed in ways that provide conservation and recreation value to the region. Regional river greenways include river corridors that have been enhanced by improvements (such as trails or greenways) and protections (such as easements). Lake Allatoona and Lake Lanier are two regional water reservoirs that are identified for the multiple roles they have for conservation and recreation (smaller water reservoirs are generally encompassed within water supply watersheds). National and State Parks, and other recreational and multi-use trails round out this category.

Local, state and non-profit organizations have invested in parks, trails, and recreational amenities that have begun to lay the foundation of an interconnected green infrastructure system in the region. Given the scale of development throughout the Atlanta Region, the investment in these resources may exceed that of other regions in the state. The need to protect and enhance natural and recreational resources has been bolstered by the connection to economic vitality within a community. Access to parks, trails and greenspace adds value to real property, and conservation of natural resources protects environmental quality and can deter expensive mitigation measures or fines for environmental degradation. Beginning in 2005, ARC undertook an ongoing inventory of publicly accessible greenspace in the Atlanta Region. These include resources such as community parks and trails, as well as larger areas such as state parks and wildlife management areas. Though these resources may not individually meet the criteria for Regionally Important Resources, collectively they are discussed as linkages in regional green infrastructure to support a continuous network.



SOUTH RIVER AT PANOLA MOUNTAIN

Water Supply Watersheds

In compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, the Department of Natural Resources defined *Environmental Planning Criteria* for the protection of water supply watersheds, which fall under the classification of a **State Vital Area**. Water supply watersheds are identified within the context of regional river basins. The *Criteria* for water supply watersheds protect community drinking water sources through the imposition of land use restrictions such as impervious surface limitations and minimum required buffers along stream channels. These development limitations provide a degree of protection for these resources, but several communities within the Atlanta Region have voluntarily adopted more stringent protections for water features within these watersheds than the minimum requirement mandated by the State. Table 3 identifies where water supply watershed protections are in place for water sources in the Atlanta Region.

The protection of water supply watersheds is a multi-jurisdictional responsibility. Developments that affect a water supply watershed may be located in an adjacent city or county from the intake point, thus their stewardship qualifies as a regional issue. The *Criteria* for water supply watersheds distinguish between small watersheds (less than 100 square miles) and large watersheds (greater than 100 square miles), and different rules are imposed for the critical area within a 7 mile upstream radius of the intake point. Within small water supply watersheds, RIR mapping includes the entire impacted land area, however within the large water supply watersheds, only buffer zones along impacted streams are mapped.

Several agencies play diverse roles in water planning and conservation in the Atlanta Region. It is the goal of the Regional Resource Plan to reinforce the recommendations of existing agencies and enhance the guidance set out in other planning documents of these agencies. The recommendations of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's (MNGWPD) *Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan* were resources for developing *Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices* and *General Policies and Protection Measures* of this Plan. The Georgia Water Stewardship Act (Senate Bill 370) was passed by the Georgia General Assembly in 2010, and it extends many of the provisions of the MNGWPD plans statewide and also directs local governments to work to support existing statewide water conservation campaigns, specifically identifying Conserve Water Georgia, a clearinghouse for information on water conservation. This organization cites additional resources, including *Georgia's Water Conservation Implementation Plan* published by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, that provide good direction for best management practices for individuals, private sector entities, and local governments. The specific recommendations for *Guidance* and *Policies* in regard to watershed protection in the Regional Resource Plan focus mostly on broad best management practices in deference to specific implementation strategies of other regional water quality plans.

Water Supply Watersheds

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as State Vital Areas • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • Lack of protection through adequate regulations or easements • Lack of enforcement of existing regulations • Subject to differing regulations over a multi-jurisdictional area
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of water supply watersheds but will also actively work to facilitate appropriate conservation mechanisms and provide technical assistance for resource management and enhancement. This includes promoting regulations that comply with the Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria and the plan recommendations of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, which consider requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act, Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Federal Flood Protection Programs, and Federal Endangered Species Act, and similar requirements under Georgia law. ARC will also work to promote low-impact development practices; promote infill development and redevelopment; advocate development of a regional Transfer of Development Rights program; protect river greenways; and promote new ordinances for programs such as conservation subdivision guidelines, alternative site design elements, and stormwater utilities that will positively impact water quality. ARC will work proactively to encourage local government plans to comply with regional planning initiatives, including aligning local comprehensive plan elements with regional planning goals to the extent practical.</p>	

Groundwater Recharge Areas

In compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, the Department of Natural Resources defined *Environmental Planning Criteria* for the protection of groundwater recharge areas, which fall under the classification of a **State Vital Area**. The *Criteria* for groundwater recharge areas protect those areas that are particularly suitable for the penetration of water into the aquifers that hold the groundwater supply. Using the DRASTIC methodology, a standardized system for evaluating groundwater pollution potential, it has been determined that there are no areas meeting the criteria for high pollution susceptibility groundwater recharge areas in the Atlanta Region. There are areas of soils that are susceptible to the infiltration of pollutants, which are also governed by the *Environmental Planning Criteria*, however these areas do not meet the specifications identified within the Rules for identifying Regionally Important Resources. More information on the DRASTIC methodology can be found in the Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs website at www.dca.state.ga.us/development/planningqualitygrowth/programs/downloads/EPC.pdf



CHATTAHOOCHEE NATURE CENTER / CREDIT: ARC

Wetlands

In compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, the Department of Natural Resources defined *Environmental Planning Criteria* for the protection of wetlands, which fall under the classification of a **State Vital Area**. The *Criteria* for wetlands protect land areas adjacent to surface water bodies that sustain vegetation typically found in areas with saturated soil conditions. These areas support a variety of ecosystems that make dynamic environmental contributions and are important to sustainable planning and practice. Wetlands are generally found along or adjacent to stream corridors in this region. To mitigate their disturbance, communities have incorporated them into trails and greenways, thus still preserving a sensitive habitat while creating a community amenity. Preserving the diversity of wildlife supported by wetlands further lends to creating a recreational and educational amenity on otherwise undevelopable land. In instances where alteration or degradation of wetlands is unavoidable, federal regulations generally require “no net loss of wetlands,” therefore the creation of wetlands banks have become more widespread. The disturbance of wetlands is permitted through the US Army Corps of Engineers and governed by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as State Vital Areas • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • Lack of protection through adequate regulations or easements • Lack of enforcement of existing regulations
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of wetlands. This includes regulations complying with the <i>Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria</i>. Wetlands are also protected under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.</p>	



CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER / CREDIT: ARC

Protected River Corridors

In compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, the Department of Natural Resources defined *Environmental Planning Criteria* for the protection of rivers, which fall under the classification of a **State Vital Area**. The *Criteria* for protected river corridors focus on preserving the land adjacent to rivers to support a diversity of wildlife, recreational interests, and water quality. Land adjacent to rivers is also subject to periodic inundation due to flooding and other changes in water currents. Limiting development along river corridors enhances the environmental quality within a community and protects investments in real property from damage due to flooding. Within the area served by ARC, several counties have been identified as having protected River Corridors. The **Etowah River** flows through Cherokee County. The **Chattahoochee River** flows through Cobb, Fulton, Douglas and Gwinnett Counties. And the **South River** flows through Henry, Rockdale, DeKalb, and Fulton Counties.

Pursuant to the *Criteria* “river corridor” refers to areas of a protected river and being within 100 feet on both sides of the river as measured from the river banks. A “protected river” is distinguished by exceeding a threshold for average annual flow as determined by the U.S. Geological Service.

In 1973, the Georgia General Assembly passed the Metropolitan River Protection Act. The initial Act, and a later amendment in 1998, establishes a 2,000 foot corridor along the Chattahoochee River through the Atlanta Region, beginning at Buford Dam and extending through Douglas County. Pursuant to the regulations of the Act, ARC oversees the process whereby all land disturbing activity within the corridor is reviewed, approved and certified for consistency with Corridor Standards.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 allows for the creation of Habitat Conservation Plans to protect endangered wildlife species. The Etowah River Habitat Conservation Plan was initiated by the local governments within the Etowah River Basin, and after several years of planning, a document was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review and comment. Once the review is complete, local governments can adopt and implement the provisions of the HCP, furthering the protection of a sensitive natural resource and wildlife that depends upon it.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as State Vital Areas • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • Lack of protection through adequate regulations or easements • Lack of enforcement of existing regulations • Subject to differing regulations over a multi-jurisdictional area

Protected River Corridors

ARC Management Strategies

ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of protected river corridors. This includes regulations complying with the *Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria* (www.dca.state.ga.us/development/planningqualitygrowth/programs/downloads/EPC.pdf) and the *Metropolitan River Protection Act* (www.atlantaregional.com/environment/water/mrpa-chattahoochee-corridor-protection). When adopted, the provisions of the *Etowah Habitat Conservation Plan* will provide additional recommendations for the stewardship of this resource. River corridors have particular value for water quality protection, preservation of wildlife habitat, and forming connections along regional river greenways.



SOUTH RIVER / CREDIT: ARC



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK / CREDIT: ARC

Mountain Protection

In compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, *Minimum Planning Requirements*, the Department of Natural Resources defined *Environmental Planning Criteria* for the protection of mountains, which fall under the classification of a **State Vital Area**. The *Criteria* for protected mountains are designed to limit development activities on sensitive mountain slopes to protect the general health, safety and public welfare of a community. Located at the convergence of the Blue Ridge and Piedmont Regions of the state, limited areas of Protected Mountain resources are found within the Atlanta Region.

Mountains contain unique natural and topographic features that support a diversity of wildlife and contribute to the scenic qualities of a community. However, those same features can be fragile and can threaten water quality, real property investments and public welfare. Within the area served by ARC, mountain protection requirements have been established in Cherokee County in proximity to Kennesaw Mountain and Pine Log Mountain. Much of Pine Log Mountain is leased by Georgia DNR as a Wildlife Management Area. Garland Mountain, also in Cherokee County, has not been identified as a Protected Mountain by the State criteria, but Cherokee County does own a large portion of the site.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Identified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as State Vital Areas • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use • Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • Lack of protection through adequate regulations or easements • Increasing pressure for residential development within scenic mountain areas has resulted in the fragmentation of forest habitats.
ARC Management Strategies	
ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of protected mountains. This includes regulations complying with the Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria.	

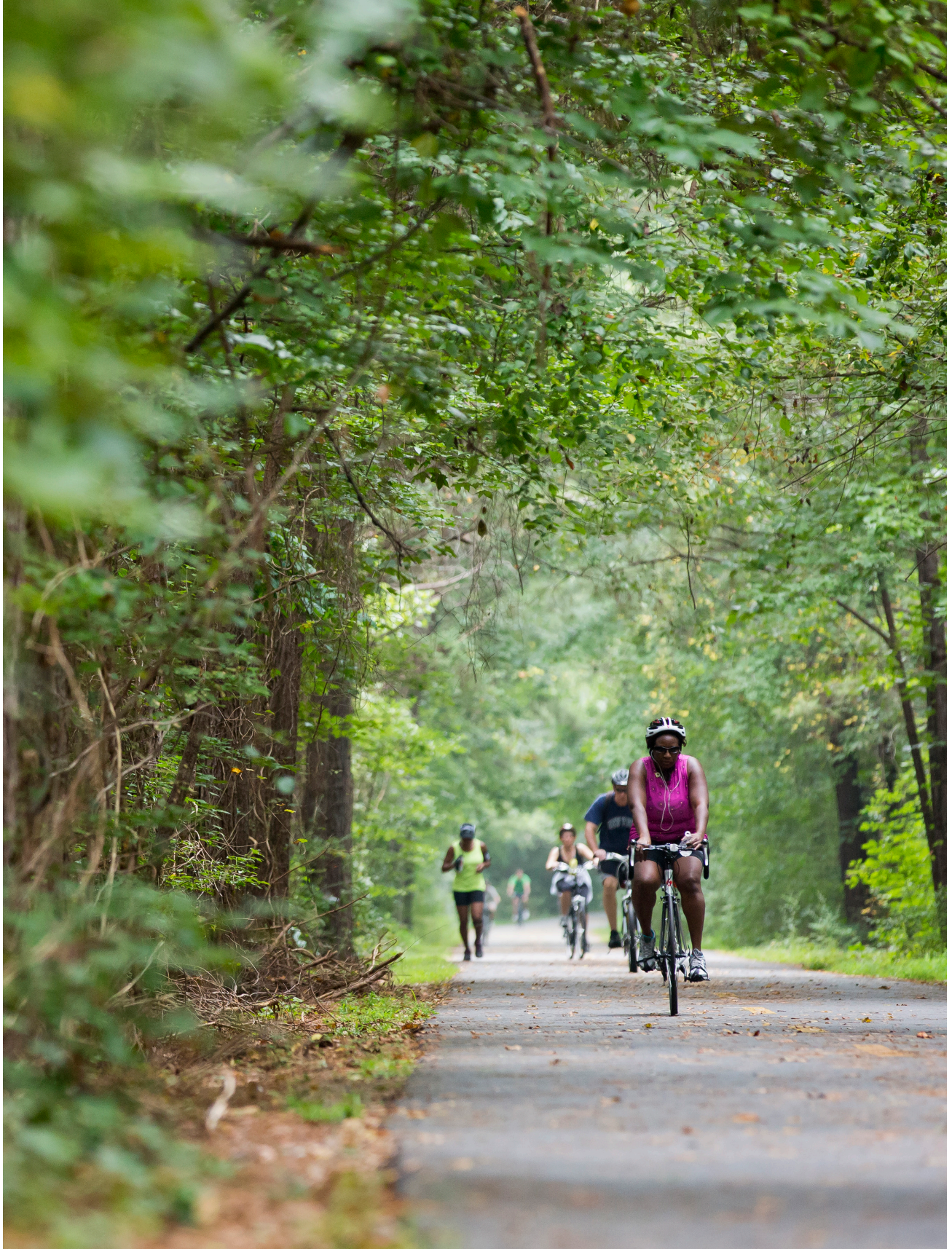


BUFORD DAM AT LAKE LANIER/

Regional Reservoirs

Major Lakes in the region serve multiple purposes, including preservation of wildlife habitat, recreational amenities and critical drinking water supplies. **Lake Allatoona** is located within Bartow, Cherokee and Cobb Counties and is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is an integral part of the system of rivers, lakes and reservoirs that provide drinking water to the Atlanta region. The shoreline of the lake includes numerous recreation facilities that are open to the public. The lake is also buffered by greenspace that is not open to the public, but is nonetheless critical to maintaining the lake and providing species habitat. **Lake Lanier**, located mostly within Forsyth and Hall County beyond the 10-county region, is a significant resource for the Atlanta Region. It serves as a source of drinking water, power generation, and flood control, as well as a recreational and economic development amenity for the Atlanta Region. The construction of Buford Dam and the subsequent creation of Lake Lanier was a significant force in shaping the region and marking Atlanta as an emerging major metropolitan area.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Subject to damaging pollutants and/ or contaminants • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • On-going litigation among Alabama, Florida, and Georgia for the use of the water from Lake Lanier • Severe droughts cause drop in water level • Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship, particularly of parks and adjacent resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of regional reservoirs. Both lakes are located mostly outside of boundaries of the 10-county region, and existing management structures and resources provide stewardship for these sites. Both lake environments are managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the <i>Rules and Regulations Governing Public Use of Water Resource Development Projects Administered by the Chief of Engineers</i> are found in C.F.R. Title 36 Chapter 3 part 327 and available at http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_01/36cfr327_01.html</p>	



SILVER COMET TRAIL / CREDIT: RAFTERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails

Both greenways and trails have been identified within the Regional Resource Plan for their conservation value, as well as their function as points of connectivity within larger green infrastructure and transportation networks. As advocacy efforts for greenway and trail building have increased, numerous local governments have begun to identify and develop local greenway and trail systems within their own communities.

Greenways. The area adjacent to all rivers can be considered a greenway, but this plan focuses on those areas that are enhanced by active conservation measures and/ or recreational use of their greenways. Included in this **Big Creek Greenway** (Fulton County); **Lionel Hampton Greenway Trail** (Fulton County); **Johns Creek Greenway** (Fulton County); **Suwanee Creek Greenway** (Gwinnett County); **Ivy Creek Greenway** (Gwinnett County); **Camp Creek Greenway** (Gwinnett County) and the **Western Gwinnett Greenway** (Gwinnett County).

Multi-Use Trails. Trail systems can be combined with river greenways, but as often can be found utilizing other corridors such as city streets, public utilities, linear parks, or abandoned rail lines. Within the Atlanta Region, several projects exemplify this kind of adaptability. The **Silver Comet Trail** is a non-motorized trail that begins in Cobb County and runs 61 miles to the western state line with Alabama. It is a rails-to-trails project named for the famous engine that formerly ran this route. Investment in a significant stretch of trail infrastructure, such as the Silver Comet, is the mainstay of the emerging regional multi-use path network. It allows for smaller connections to begin to create significant opportunities for greater connectivity. In the case of the Silver Comet Trail, segments such as the Spring Road Trail, Concord Road Trail, and Bob Callan Connector have been built by partners in Cobb County and the Cumberland CID.

A similar example can be seen where significant trail investments have been made in the **Riverside Trail** and **Lower Roswell Trail** in proximity to the Big Creek Greenway Trail. Coupled with improvements made in the city of Johns Creek, including the **Bell Road Multi-Use Trail**, **Rogers Bridge Road Multi-Use Trail**, and **State Bridge Road Multi-Use Trail** that are in proximity to the Western Gwinnett Greenway, Suwanee Creek Greenway, Ivy Creek Greenway and Johns Creek Greenway, the northwest part of the region has over 35 miles of trails to serve as the foundation of a network.

The Atlanta Beltline is a redevelopment project that includes multiple revitalization elements, but its inclusion as a Regionally Important Resource results primarily from its trail and greenspace concept. The proposed 22-mile loop runs through well-established neighborhoods and commercial centers – many of which include historically and culturally significant resources – and includes 1200 acres of greenway and parkland. Sections of both the **Eastside Trail** and **Westside Trail** have been opened to heavy public use, and they foster connections to existing trail infrastructure, such as the Freedom Park Trail and on road bicycle improvements, including the 10th Street Cycle Track.

Other multi-use trail projects connecting multiple venues include the **Stone Mountain Trail**, a 17 mile trail from the Martin Luther King Center to Stone Mountain Park, which also includes **Freedom Park** with six miles of bike and walking trails through eight intown Atlanta neighborhoods. The **Arabia Mountain Trail** is a 13-mile multi-use trail that runs through DeKalb and Rockdale Counties in proximity to the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, connecting to 10 miles of the **Rockdale River Trail**. This trail is planned to eventually connect to the **Olde Town Conyers Trail**.

On the north end of the region, the city of Woodstock has initiated construction of their **Greenprints Trail** network. With over 80 miles of trails planned, and 7 ½ miles already built, Woodstock is on track to mirror on of the region's southside communities with an exceptionally robust multi-use trail network. **Peachtree City's Path System** boasts over 90 miles of trails that can be used by pedestrians, cycles and golf carts have been built in conjunction with the development of the city.

Development of river greenways facilitates conservation and recreational amenities and is closely linked to the protection of river corridors and wetlands, enhancing the protection of water quality and water supply sources. Multi-use trails establish connectivity to parks, historic districts, and other cultural amenities and provide additional opportunities for community and economic development. If strategically planned, greenways and multi-use trails can provide alternate routes for transportation choices for both functional and recreational purposes.

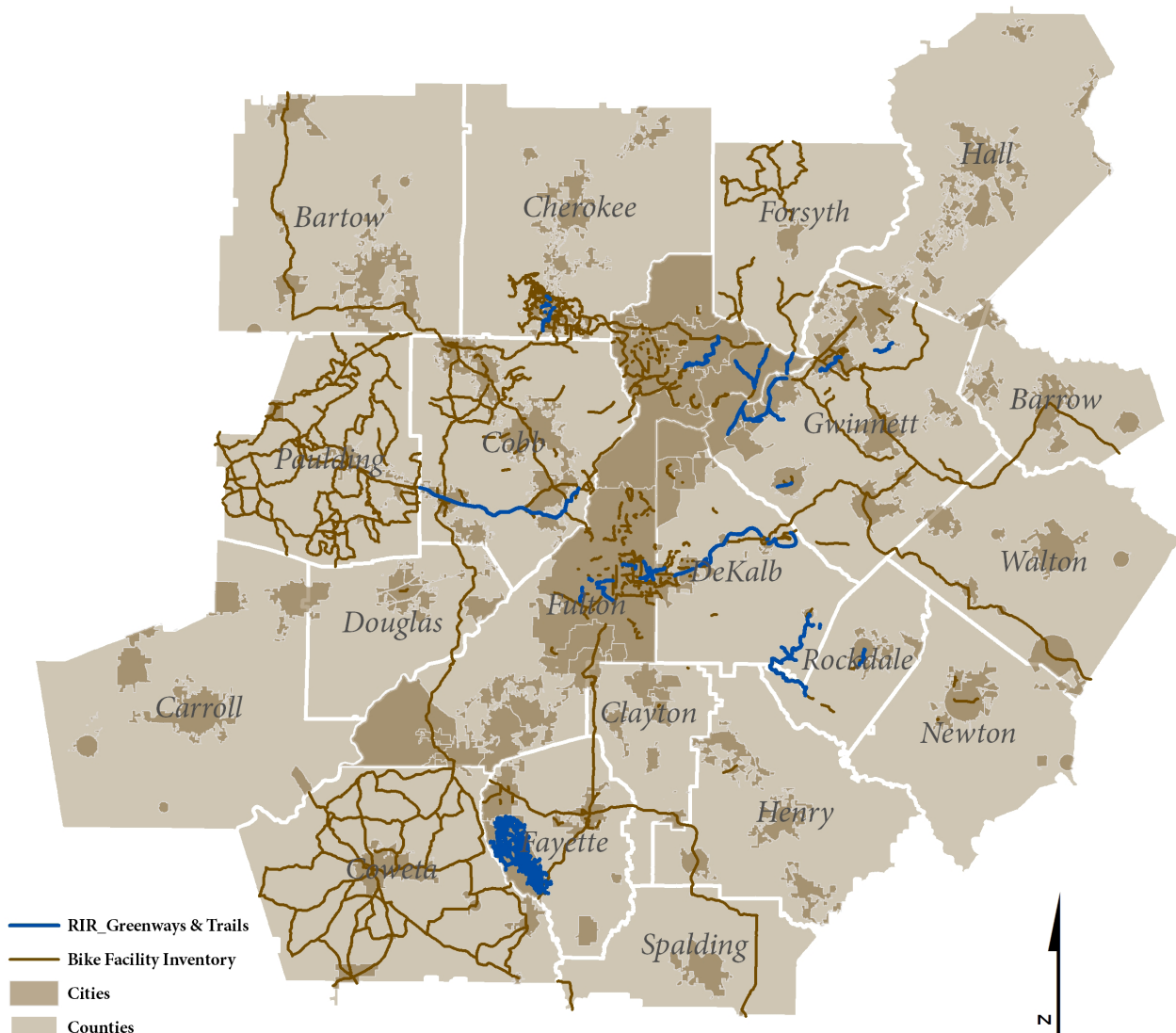
Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threaten economic viability of current or proposed use • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Threatened by over-use of resource (i.e. inappropriate recreational use, too much traffic, etc) • Lack of protection through adequate easements for part or all of the greenway • Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for portions of planned greenways
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of regional greenways and multi-use trails, but will also actively work to facilitate appropriate conservation mechanisms and provide technical assistance for resource management and enhancement. Much of the work being done in greenway and trail development results from initiatives of local governments and non-profit agencies. Greenways are typically under the stewardship of the local government in which they are located. The Parks and Recreation Department for Cobb County manages the portion of the Silver Comet Trail within its jurisdiction (www.silvercomet.com). The Atlanta Beltline is managed by Atlanta Beltline Inc. and its development is directed through both comprehensive master plans and zoning overlays (www.beltline.org). Stewardship of the Stone Mountain Trail, Freedom Park, and Arabia Mountain Trail all involve various groups, including the PATH Foundation (www.pathfoundation.org), the Freedom Park Conservancy (www.freedompark.org), and the Arabia Alliance (www.arabiaalliance.org) and are good examples of the strength of developing advocacy groups for a resource. ARC maintains a comprehensive inventory of bicycle lanes and trails, as well as greenspace amenities including local parks. Advocating for a regional effort to coordinate planning activities among local trail, greenway and greenspace amenities will foster greater connectivity throughout the regional and state green infrastructure network.</p>	

Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails

FIGURE 2

Greenspace Linkages: Bicycle Facility Network



Greenways and multi-use trails identified as Regionally Important Resources are part of a larger network of alternative transportation. ARC's Bicycle Facility Network catalogs existing and planned improvements for infrastructure that includes shared travel lanes, side paths, paved shoulders, and conventional bicycle lanes. Regionally Important Resources that are identified greenways and multi-use trails are off-road facilities. Along with existing green infrastructure such as the regional park networks, and path improvements located therein, on- and off-road bicycle infrastructure contributes to connections in the regional green infrastructure network. [Greenspace Linkages are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan].



LYONS FARM AT ARABIA MOUNTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA / CREDIT: ARC

National Park Service Sites

The National Park Service has created several classifications for park sites, a variety of which are found in the Atlanta Region. Collectively, these sites encompass several thousand acres and offer unique opportunities for environmental conservation, heritage preservation and recreation.

The **Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area** consists of a 48 mile stretch of the Chattahoochee River and 14 land units along its corridor. It begins at Lake Lanier's Buford Dam and continues downstream through Forsyth, Gwinnett, Fulton and Cobb Counties to Peachtree Creek near downtown Atlanta. It is the site of both prehistoric and historic resources and wildlife habitat, and attracts more than 3 million visitors annually. Recreational activities at the site include hiking, fishing, picnicking, rafting, canoeing, kayaking, and evening family programs.

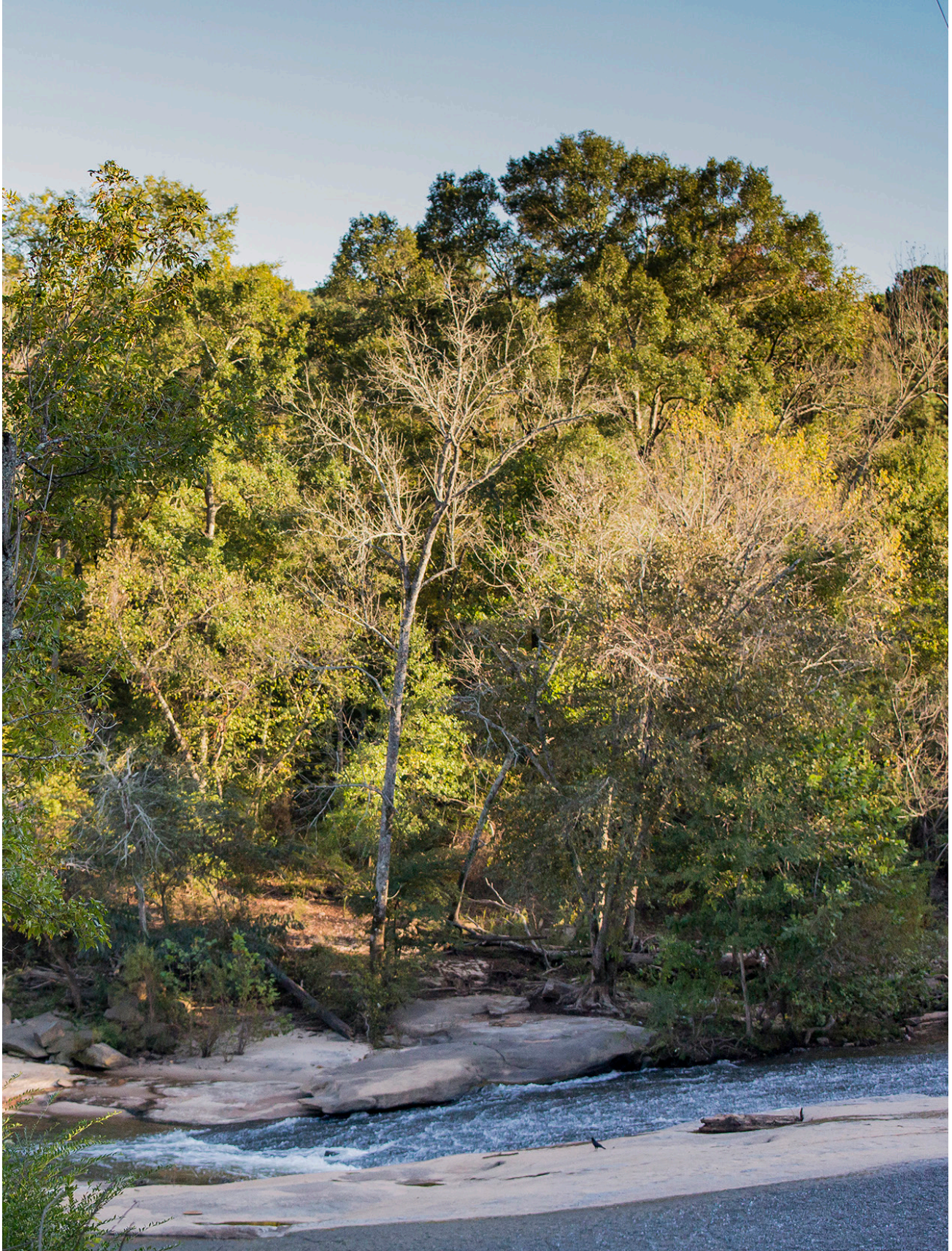
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Cobb County is a site affiliated with the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War. Encompassing 2,923 acres, it is reflective of cultural elements of Native American, Antebellum, and Civil War history that played itself out on this site. It includes a trail network and several different forms of interpretive media that detail the significance of the site. Other elements of this cultural landscape include historic earthworks, monuments to commemorate fallen soldiers, and historic structures such as Kolb's Farm and family cemetery.

The **Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area** offers a unique showcase of natural, cultural and historic legacies concentrated in portions of DeKalb, Rockdale, and Henry Counties. The land that comprises the Heritage Area includes active quarries, rolling topography, rural landscapes and unique granite outcroppings – a singular habitat feature of the Georgia Piedmont Region. This area has been linked to human settlement and activity for thousands of years and contains unique and diverse ecosystems that encompass spiritual landscapes, mountains, quarries, woodlands, lakes, rivers and farmland. Land acquisition as a part of this project has been identified as an endorsed project by the Georgia Land Conservation Program. Included within the Heritage Area are unique resources, including Panola Mountain State Park, the Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, and the Monastery of the Holy Spirit.

Panola Mountain State Park is registered as a **National Natural Landmark** and its vast granite outcroppings preserve features of the Georgia Piedmont habitat that have been threatened or lost in the vicinity due to residential developments. Located in Rockdale County, it provides passive recreation and learning opportunities while preserving wildlife habitat, watershed protection, floodplain protection and preservation of delicate ecological features including many rare plants of the Piedmont region. It is a key component in both the Arabia Mountain Trail and the Rockdale River Trail, and land acquisition at this site has been targeted as an endorsed project within the Georgia Land Conservation Program.

National Park Service Sites

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history place or time period represented • Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened by Destruction of subsurface resources, such as archaeological sites • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Threatened by erosion and/ or stormwater run-off flows • Threatened by over-use of resource (i.e. inappropriate recreational use, too much traffic, etc) • Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of National Park Service Sites. Existing management structures and resources provide stewardship for these sites. The Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area and the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are both managed by onsite personnel of the National Park Service, and management plans for each are available through the National Park Service (www.nps.gov/chat and www.nps.gov/kemo). The Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area was designated through the National Park Service, but its stewardship is largely accomplished through the Management Action Plan of The Arabia Alliance (www.arabiaalliance.org). Within the Heritage Area, separate resources may have individual management plans such the Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve, which is a unit of the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Department (www.co.dekalb.ga.us/parks); Panola Mountain State Park, which is a unit of the Georgia State Parks Division (www.gastateparks.org/ Panola); and Monastery of the Holy Spirit, which is a Roman Catholic Monastery of Trappist Monks (www.trappist.net). The National Natural Landmark designation of Panola Mountain State Park was designated through the National Park Service, but the site's Resource Management falls within the stewardship plans of the Georgia State Park System (www.gastateparks.org) and also benefits from a Friends of Panola volunteer organization.</p>	



PANOLA MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

State Parks and Other Recreation Areas

Similar to National Park Sites, State Parks also provide opportunities for environmental conservation, heritage preservation and recreation.

Panola Mountain State Park provides passive recreation and learning opportunities while preserving wildlife habitat, watershed protection, floodplain protection and preservation of delicate ecological features including many rare plants of the Piedmont region. Located in Rockdale County, Panola Mountain State Park is registered as a National Natural Landmark and its vast granite outcroppings preserve features of the Georgia Piedmont habitat that have been threatened or lost in the vicinity due to residential developments. It is a key component in both the Arabia Mountain Trail and the Rockdale River Trail, and land acquisition at this site has been targeted as an endorsed project within the Georgia Land Conservation Program.

Sweetwater Creek State Park, located in Douglas County, includes the ruins of the New Manchester Manufacturing Mill, several miles of hiking trails, and the George Sparks Reservoir. The Visitors Center at the site includes information on recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat and historic resources, and also boasts LEED Platinum certification for its environmentally friendly building design. It is a model structure within the state park system as well as the larger built environment of the region.

Stone Mountain, at 825 feet tall and reaching 1,683 feet above sea level, is the world's largest known free-standing piece of exposed granite. Stone Mountain Park hosts festivals and family-oriented activities, and boasts trails, lakes and opportunities for wildlife viewing. It includes more than 3,000 acres of parkland and attracts over 4 million visitors annually. Located in DeKalb County, the view from the top of the mountain provides a scenic panorama of many parts of the region. The mountain is approximately five miles in circumference at its base, but its subterranean reach is more extensive.

Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) support habitats of diverse wildlife species and provide recreational opportunities for public hunting, fishing and related sports. The Atlanta Region includes the **Allatoona WMA**, the **Pine Log WMA**, and the **McGraw Ford WMA** all in Cherokee County. Fee simple land acquisition within the McGraw Ford WMA was identified as an endorsed project by the Georgia Land Conservation Program. The area in Cherokee County around Lake Allatoona which is under the stewardship of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also serves a similar function to that of recreational amenities such as State Parks and WMAs.

State Parks and Other Recreation Areas

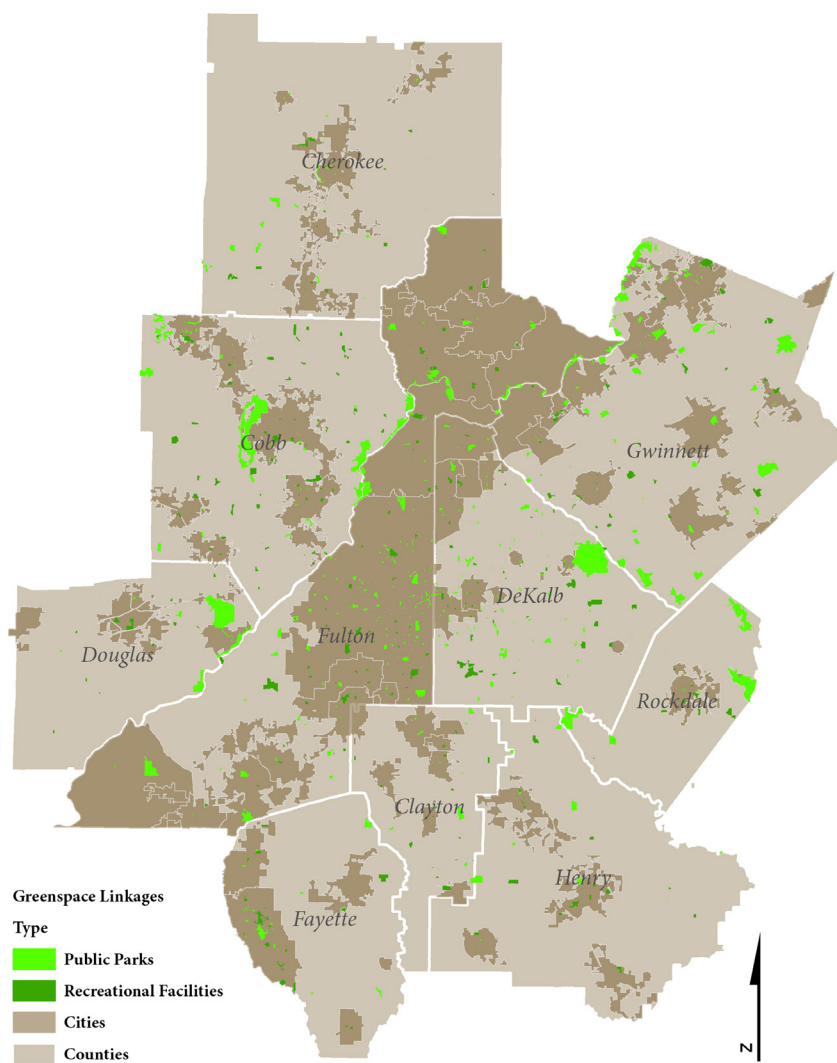
Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Natural or cultural resources that are already preserved by an existing conservation mechanism • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Protects wildlife habitat by creating, buffering, preserving habitat areas and corridors • Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed • Potential adverse impact on wildlife/ loss of biodiversity • Threatened by over-use of resource (i.e. inappropriate recreational use, too much traffic, etc) • Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of State Parks and Other Recreation Areas. Existing management structures and resources provide stewardship for these sites. Panola Mountain State Park and Sweetwater Creek State Park are both managed as units of the Georgia State Park System (www.gastateparks.org) and both benefit from “Friends of” volunteer organizations. Stone Mountain is owned by the State of Georgia, but is managed through Stone Mountain Memorial Association, a self-supporting Georgia State Authority (www.stonemountainpark.org). The commercial operations of the park are managed through a long-term public/ private partnership with the Herschend Family Entertainment Corporation. The Wildlife Management Areas are all managed through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division (www.georgiawildlife.com). The environment around Lake Allatoona is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the <i>Rules and Regulations Governing Public Use of Water Resource Development Projects Administered by the Chief of Engineers</i> are found in C.F.R. Title 36 Chapter 3 part 327 and available at http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_01/36cfr327_01.html</p>	

State Parks and Other Recreation Areas

FIGURE 3

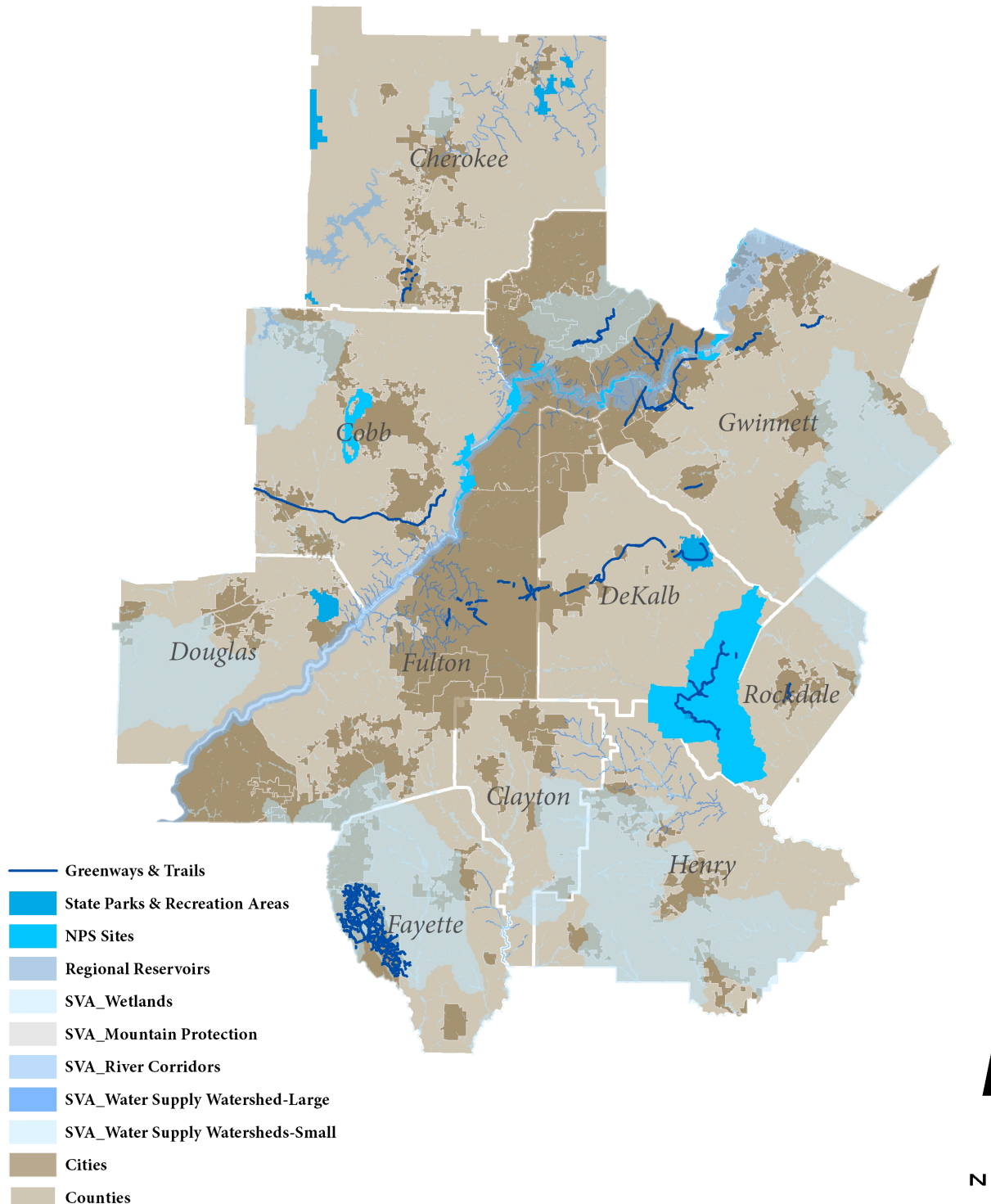
Greenspace Linkages: Regional Parks

The regional park network contributes to the core of a green infrastructure plan. The Atlanta region includes thousands of acres of community parks in all forms and sizes. Many parks are the legacy of historic events such as Piedmont Park, which was the site of the 1895 Cotton States Exposition, or Kennesaw Mountain, site of a key Civil War battle. Others provide environmental protection, such as the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area. The majority are designed to commemorate key events or important citizens for the local community, or provide recreational areas for neighborhoods. Pursuant to the DCA Rules for Regional Resource Plans, parks in the Atlanta Region are included as Greenspace Linkages as a backdrop to the Regionally Important Resources Map and help to form a continuous green infrastructure network. [Greenspace Linkages are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]



CONSERVATION AND RECREATION REGIONALLY IMPORTANT RESOURCES

FIGURE 4



Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices

TABLE 3

<p><i>Matrix of Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices</i>¹</p> <p>Areas of Conservation and/ or Recreational Value</p>	Water Supply Watersheds	Groundwater Recharge Areas	Wetlands	River Corridors	Mountain Protection	Regional Reservoirs	Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails	National Park Service Sites	State Parks and Other Recreation Areas
Regulations and Plans									
Adhere to all local, state and federal regulations for the protection of State Vital Areas	X		X	X	X				
Where practical, exceed minimum required buffers from protected areas	X			X		X	X		
Encourage the voluntary set aside of land in a development that is part of a conceptual greenway connectivity plan							X		
Site Design and Connectivity									
Use alternative designs and materials to minimize the use of impervious surface to the greatest practical extent	X		X	X		X	X		
Where possible, utilize natural features on site for stormwater management	X		X						
Install rain gardens, vegetated swales or other enhanced water filtration design within the landscape of the project to enhance the quality of stormwater run-off	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Where possible, retain existing vegetation and topography	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Locate structures and impervious areas as far away as possible from water resources, including wetlands and flood prone areas on the development site	X		X	X					
Undertake stream restoration or streambank stabilization for any compromised areas of a stream				X			X		
Where possible, link areas along river corridors to existing greenways or establish a conservation mechanism for future greenway development			X	X			X		
Do not disturb land in proximity to the boundary of a potential subsurface resource, such as a cemetery or archaeological site								X	X
Where possible, use multi-use trails to link new developments to public access points for national or state parks and other recreation areas								X	X
Architectural and Design Aesthetics									
Consider impact to viewsheds and take appropriate steps to mitigate impacts					X			X	X
Programs and Protections									
Consider the donation of a conservation easement for land that will be impacted by development in proximity to a historic or cultural resource, and/ or rural or agricultural area								X	X

¹ARC staff will use professional judgment to determine whether recommendations are applicable to a project under review within one mile of a Regionally Important Resource.

General Policies and Protection Measures

TABLE 4

<p><i>Matrix of General Policies and Protection Measures</i></p> <p>Areas of Conservation and/ or Recreational Value</p>	<p>Water Supply Watersheds</p>	<p>Groundwater Recharge Areas</p>	<p>Wetlands</p>	<p>River Corridors</p>	<p>Mountain Protection</p>	<p>Regional Reservoirs</p>	<p>Regional Greenways and Multi-Use Trails</p>	<p>National Park Service Sites</p>	<p>State Parks and Other Recreation Areas</p>
Regulations and Plans									
Meet or exceed all state and federal regulations for the protection of State Vital Areas	X		X	X	X				
Adopt model ordinances (or their equivalent) as recommended by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District	X								
Within the context of a community green infrastructure plan, develop watershed improvement projects that will enhance the health of watersheds in the local community	X		X						
Within the context of a community green infrastructure plan, develop a local greenway management plan that considers both conservation and recreational uses of wetlands, flood prone areas and other water quality resources			X	X			X		
Within the context of a community green infrastructure plan develop local connections among regional parks, trails and other community resources							X	X	X
Site Design and Connectivity									
Promote the redevelopment of existing sites and address any prior water quality impacts at the time of redevelopment	X								
Adopt a conservation subdivision/ cluster subdivision option where appropriate; review and revise existing conservation subdivision/ cluster subdivision ordinances to ensure they accomplish conservation goals	X				X	X			
Ensure local development review process adequately addresses protections for areas that are important to water quality and ensure that local ordinances do not preclude site design standards that improve water quality	X		X	X		X			
Ensure that current development ordinances limit or prohibit the location of structures in flood prone areas			X	X					
Establish incentives for development projects that provide access to a community greenway or trail							X		
Establish criteria to identify potential corridors that possess unique natural, scenic, or cultural value				X			X	X	X
Architectural and Design Aesthetics									
Document significant features that contribute to the scenic viewshed of natural, historic and rural areas and develop design guidelines to mitigate the visual impact of new development in these areas					X				
Programs and Protections									
Work cooperatively to develop a regional TDR program	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Implement a conservation easement donation program for the public holding of easements and/ or explore options for the fee simple ownership of greenspace by local governments	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Examine the feasibility of establishing a PDR program that focuses on land acquisition along stream banks and floodplains			X	X			X		
Establish a wetlands/ streambank mitigation bank along a greenway			X	X			X		
Work proactively to foster partnerships/ “friends of” programs to enhance the effective stewardship of greenways, trails, parks, historic and cultural resources							X	X	X

HISTORY AND CULTURE

Historic and cultural resources create the contextual setting for many of the character defining features of a community. Historic preservation planning is generally governed by the parameters established by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards have come to be accepted as the benchmark by which a property is deemed to have historic significance. A property listed on the National Register of Historic Places has been vetted through an extensive review process and is, by definition, a historic place worthy of preservation.

Communities in the Atlanta Region have recognized projects that demonstrate historic preservation initiatives on multiple scales – from identification of National Landmarks to documentation of subsurface archaeological resources. Included in the Regional Resource Plan are structures that reflect both high-style and vernacular architectural traditions. It includes landscapes by the Olmstead Firm, structures by Heinz, Reed and Adler, and cultural repositories of arts and archives. The diversity of resources within the Atlanta Region is reflected through a multitude of historic districts and individual sites that trace significant cultural events from its prehistoric occupants, through early European settlements, the Civil War, the New South and into the mid-20th century.

In the Atlanta Region, historic preservation has been used as a tool to create benchmarks for community identity beyond just proscriptive architectural requirements. Cultural sites express distinctive beliefs, qualities or ideas of regional importance, and serve as repositories for collections of cultural objects. An increasing awareness of the importance of cultural landscapes – sites and places identified with the unique heritage of a community or region whereby context is created by a combination of historic and natural resources – can overlap with more traditional elements of a green infrastructure network. They can enhance interest and appeal beyond the natural and recreational qualities of a community, and often add an educational component beyond understanding the need to preserve biodiversity and environmental quality.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE / CREDIT: RAFTERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

National Historic Landmarks

There are fewer than 2,500 National Historic Landmarks identified throughout the United States, and the Atlanta Region is fortunate to have seven National Historic Landmarks, all located within the City of Atlanta. National Historic Landmarks are properties identified as having exceptional value or quality in illustrating the history of the United States, therefore they have been identified as Regionally Important Resources.

The Georgia State Capitol: Constructed between 1884 and 1889, the Georgia Capitol is a symbol of the “capitol” of the New South, as Atlanta considered itself to be after Reconstruction. Its design follows the Neoclassical precedent common to government buildings and following the design of the U.S. Capitol. The Capitol grounds are landscaped with native Georgia plants.

Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and District: This district includes the Martin Luther King Jr. birth and childhood home, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Fire Station #6 and the King Center. The work of Martin Luther King Jr. is associated with many events of the Civil Rights movement as well as landmark social reforms passed in the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act of 1964.

Sweet Auburn Historic District: Sweet Auburn is a 1 ½ mile stretch along its namesake Road, Auburn Avenue. This neighborhood, adjacent to the Martin Luther King National Historic Site, is associated with significant events of the Civil Rights Movement, as well as the New South experiences of African Americans.

Herndon Mansion (1910): The Herndon Mansion was the home Alonzo Herndon and wife Adrienne, who was also the designer of the residence. Alonzo was born into slavery and raised in a sharecropping family, but would later become Atlanta’s first black millionaire. Beginning his professional career in barbering, his entrepreneurial talents allowed him to operate several barbershops in downtown Atlanta. He invested widely in real estate and founded the Atlanta Life Insurance Company in the Sweet Auburn neighborhood.

Wren’s Nest – the Joel Chandler Harris House (c.1880): The Wren’s Nest is the home where Harris wrote many of his Uncle Remus/ Br’er Rabbit tales. He spent his early years growing up on a southern plantation where he was exposed to these stories and their storytellers first hand. Harris was not the only author to record these African folk tales brought to the South through the enslaved African population; however, his position with the local newspaper, the *Atlanta Constitution*, provided a forum for widespread dissemination of these tales.

Fox Theatre (1929): The Fox Theatre is a unique example of neo-Mideastern exotic revival architecture and has played a significant role in the cultural heritage of Atlanta. It is also an outstanding example of the classic ornate movie palaces that thrived in the early 20th century.

Dixie Coca Cola Bottling Plant (c.1900): This plant is the first Georgia bottling plant of the Coca-Cola Company, an international beverage icon. In addition to being the oldest surviving building of the early history of the Coca Cola Company, it is also a unique example of Victorian-era commercial architecture.

Stone Hall, Atlanta University (1882): Serving historically as the administration building for Atlanta University between 1882 and 1929, Stone Hall is an icon of the Atlanta University Center (AUC). The AUC is known as a center for the education of black Americans. The building is currently affiliated with Morris Brown College.

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse (1911): Covering an entire downtown city block, the Second Renaissance Revival structure served as the central post office until services were moved in the early 1930s. Designed to house both postal and court functions, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals occupied the building when it was established in 1981, and was eventually named in honor of Judge Albert P. Tuttle.

National Historic Landmarks

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources

ARC Management Strategies

ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of National Historic Landmarks. The Martin Luther King National Historic Site and District is managed by the National Park Service (www.nps.gov/malu). Other National Historic Landmarks fall under the stewardship of private non-profit organizations. In the Sweet Auburn district, many of the resources are privately owned, but the Historic District Development Corporation – a non-profit community based organization with a professional staff – was formed to foster redevelopment within the area (www.hddc.net). The Herndon Home is operated by the Alonzo F. and Norris B. Herndon Foundation, which was set up by Norris Herndon, the son of Alonzo and Adrienne Herndon. The Wren’s Nest is governed by a non-profit Board of Directors and operated by professional staff, the executive director being the great-great-great-grandson of Joel Chandler Harris (www.wrensonline.com). The Fox Theatre is governed by a non-profit Board of Directors known as Atlanta Landmarks Inc. and operated by professional staff (www.foxtheatre.org). The Dixie Coca Cola Bottling Plant is part of the Georgia State University Campus and houses the GSU Baptist Student Union.



WRENS NEST NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK / CREDIT: ARC



DOWNTOWN MARIETTA SQUARE / CREDIT: RAFTERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

National Register Historic District

National Register Historic Districts include buildings, structures, sites and objects that are, by definition, worthy of preservation. Districts reflect the core community building blocks of neighborhoods and activity centers that are the character and culture of our region. They encompass a scale and diversity of resources that is appropriate to be considered as regionally significant. Several individual districts were nominated by local jurisdictions for inclusion, and it was deemed equitable to include all National Register districts as equally important. In several instances, National Register Districts also encompassed sites that had been individually nominated as Regionally Important Resources, including Piedmont Park, the Olmstead Parks in the Druid Hills Neighborhood, Grant Park in the city of Atlanta and Woodward Academy, Barrett Park and the City Amphitheatre and Cemetery in the city of College Park. Table 6 identifies all of the National Register Historic Districts in the Atlanta Region that are included as Regionally Important Resources. Individual Resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places are included in Appendix K.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and easements
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of National Historic Register Districts. Designation as a National Register Historic District is an honorific title, which confers no additional regulations by the local government. National Register criteria are linked to certain preservation incentives, such as tax credits, and it also triggers a level of review in instances where federally funded, licensed or permitted activities may impact resources within the district. The programs are managed by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) which in Georgia is operated through the Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division (www.gashpo.org).</p>	

National Register Historic Districts

TABLE 5

National Register of Historic Places Districts by County		
Cherokee County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canton Commercial District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ball Ground Historic District
Clayton County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonesboro Historic District 	
Cobb County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acworth Downtown Historic District Atlanta- Frasier Street Historic District Big Shanty Village Historic District Cherokee Street Historic District Church Street-Cherokee Street Historic District Clarksdale Historic District Collins Avenue Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Main Street Historic District Northwest Marietta Street Historic District Sope Creek Ruins Historic District Summers Street Historic District Washington Avenue Historic District Whitlock Avenue Historic District
DeKalb County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avondale Estates Historic District Briarcliff Historic District Brookhaven Historic District Cameron Court District Candler Park Historic District Decatur Downtown Historic District Druid Hills Historic District Emory Grove Historic District Emory University District Kirkwood Historic District Klondike Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> McDonough-Adams-King Hwy Historic District Northwoods Historic District Oglethorpe University Historic District Ponce de Leon Court Historic District South Candler Street – Agnes Scott College Historic District Stone Mountain Historic District University Park – Emory Highlands – Emory Estates Historic District Winnona Park Historic District
Douglas County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Douglasville Commercial Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sweetwater Manufacturing Historic District
Fulton County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adair Park Historic District Ansley Park Historic District Atkins Park District Atlanta University Center District Berkley Park Historic District Brookhaven Historic District Brookwood Hills Historic District Cabbagetown Historic District Capitol View Manor Historic District Castleberry Hill Historic District College Park Historic District Collier Heights Historic District East Point Industrial District Fairburn Commercial Historic District Fairlie-Poplar Historic District Fox Theatre Historic District Garden Hills Historic District Georgia Institute of Technology Historic District Grant Park Historic District Grant Park North District Hapeville Historic District Home Park School District Hotel Row Historic District Howell Interlocking Historic District Howell Station Historic District Inman Park Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inman Park-Moreland Historic District Martin Luther King Jr Historic District Knox Apartments, Cauthorn House and Peachtree Road Apartments Historic District Lakewood Heights Historic District Mean Street Historic District Midtown Historic District Mozely Park Historic District Oakland City Historic District Peachtree Highlands Historic District Peachtree Highlands – Peachtree Park Historic District Piedmont Park Historic District Pittsburgh Historic District Reynoldstown Historic District Roswell Historic District Southern Railway North Avenue Yards Historic District Sweet Auburn Historic District Techwood Homes Historic District Underground Atlanta Historic District Virginia Highland Historic District Washington Park Historic District West End Historic District Whittier Mills Historic District
Gwinnett County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Norcross Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suwanee Historic District
Henry County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawrenceville Street Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> McDonough Historic District
Rockdale County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conyers Commercial Historic District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conyers Residential Historic District



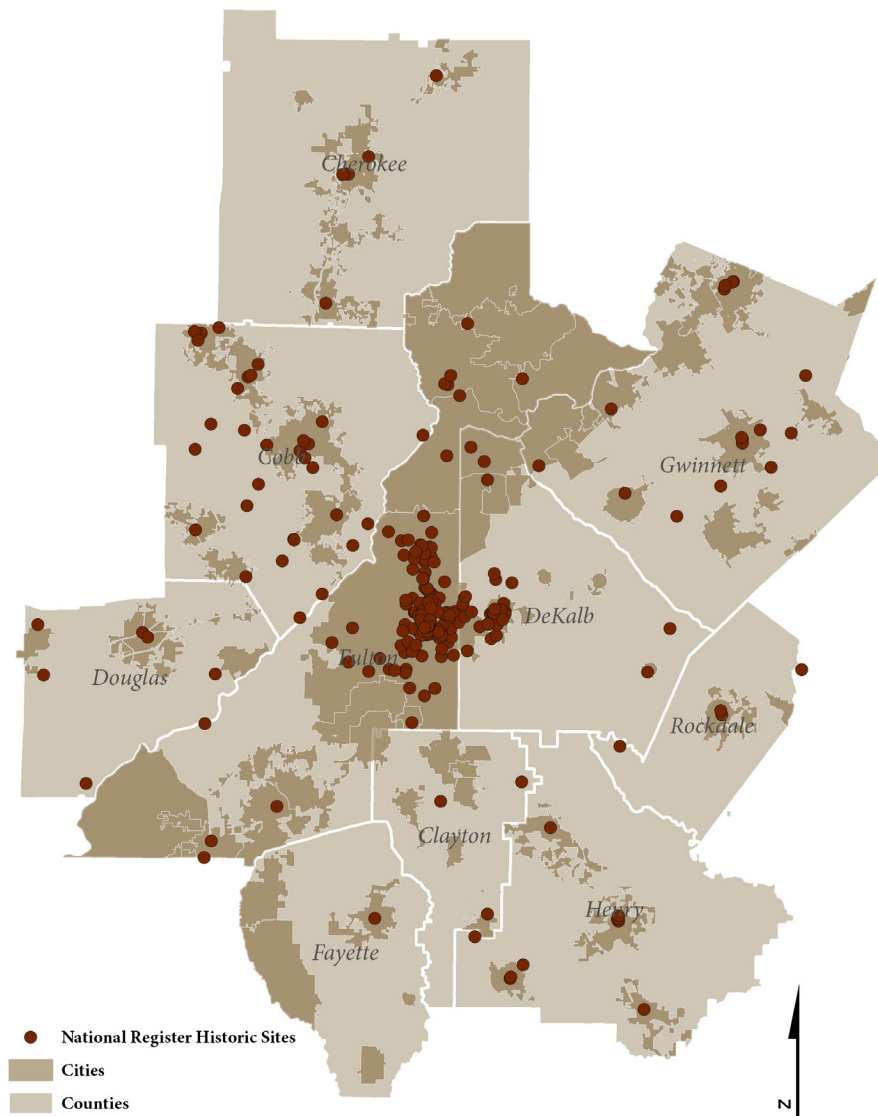
DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE MUSEUM / CREDIT: ARC

National Register Historic Sites

FIGURE 5

Cultural Connections

As with districts that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, individually listed sites bridge the gap among those places in between neighborhoods and commercial centers that laid the foundations of communities. Metro Atlanta claims almost 300 individually listed National Register sites, with countless more eligible sites identified through regular evaluation. These sites are more than just the private homes of important citizens and early civic buildings. They include sites such as the military earthworks at Johnston's Line from the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War; objects such as the Riverview Carousel and the Memorial to the Six Million. They include commercial and industrial buildings, hotels and schools, churches and train depots. All of these buildings are integral to the history and community development of their cities and towns, and they provide cultural connections in the larger cultural infrastructure network of the Metro Atlanta region. [Cultural Connections are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]



National Register Historic Sites

TABLE 6

National Register of Historic Places Individually Listed Resources by County

Resource	County
Canton Cotton Mills No. 2	Cherokee
Canton Wholesale Company Building	Cherokee
Cherokee County Courthouse	Cherokee
Crescent Farm	Cherokee
Roberts, Alfred W., House	Cherokee
Woodstock Depot	Cherokee
Crawford-Dorsey House and Cemetery	Clayton
Orkin Early Quartz Site	Clayton
Rex Mill	Clayton
Stately Oaks	Clayton
Bankston, J. C., Rock House	Cobb
Bethel AME Church	Cobb
Braswell-Carnes House	Cobb
Brumby, Arnoldus, House	Cobb
Butler, Hiram, House	Cobb
Butner--Mctyre General Store	Cobb
Camp McDonald	Cobb
Carmichael, J. H., Farm and General Store	Cobb
Causey, Israel, House	Cobb
Cheney, Andrew J., House	Cobb
Cowen, Stephen D., House	Cobb
Frobel--Knight--Borders House	Cobb
General, The	Cobb
Gibson, John S., Farmhouse	Cobb
Gilgal Church Battle Site	Cobb
Glover--McLeod--Garrison House	Cobb
Johnston's Line	Cobb
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park	Cobb
Lake Acworth Beach and Bathhouse	Cobb
Mable, Robert, House and Cemetery	Cobb
Marietta National Cemetery	Cobb
McAdoo, William Gibbs, House	Cobb
Midway Presbyterian Church and Cemetery	Cobb
Moore, Tarleton, House	Cobb
Pace, Solomon and Penelope, House	Cobb
Power, George A., House	Cobb

Resource	County
Rice, John W., Summer Cottage	Cobb
Riverview Carousel at Six Flags Over Georgia	Cobb
Ruff's Mill and Concord Covered Bridge	Cobb
Sope Creek Ruins	Cobb
Taylor--Brawner House and Brawner Sanitarium	Cobb
Zion Baptist Church	Cobb
Alston, Robert A., House	DeKalb
Blair--Rutland Building	DeKalb
Bond Family House	DeKalb
Briarcliff	DeKalb
Briarcliff--Normandy Apartments	DeKalb
Callanwolde	DeKalb
Callanwolde (Boundary Increase)	DeKalb
Cheek--Spruill House	DeKalb
Decatur Cemetery	DeKalb
Decatur Waterworks	DeKalb
Donaldson-Bannister House and Cemetery	DeKalb
Druid Hills Parks and Parkways	DeKalb
Farmer, Neville and Helen, Lustron House	DeKalb
Fischer, Dr. Luther C. and Lucy Hurt, House	DeKalb
Gay, Mary, House	DeKalb
Gentry, William T., House	DeKalb
Hampton, Cora Beck, Schoolhouse and House	DeKalb
Kirkwood School	DeKalb
Lee, Agnes, Chapter House of the United Daughters of the Confederacy	DeKalb
Old DeKalb County Courthouse	DeKalb
Pearce, William and Minnie, House	DeKalb
Pines, Russell and Nelle, Lustron House	DeKalb
Pythagoras Lodge No. 41, Free and Accepted Masons	DeKalb
Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children	DeKalb
Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children (Boundary Decrease)	DeKalb
Seminary, The	DeKalb
Smith-Benning House	DeKalb
Soapstone Ridge	DeKalb

National Register Historic Sites

Resource	County
South Candler Street--Agnes Scott College Historic District	DeKalb
Steele-Cobb House	DeKalb
Swanton House	DeKalb
United States Post Office--Decatur, Georgia	DeKalb
Zuber--Jarrell House	DeKalb
Basket Creek Cemetery	Douglas
Beulah Grove Lodge No. 372, Free and Accepted York Masons--Pleasant Grove School	Douglas
Carnes, John Thomas, Family Log House	Douglas
Douglas County Courthouse	Douglas
Pine Mountain Gold Mine	Douglas
Roberts, Col. William T., House	Douglas
Sweet Water Manufacturing Site	Douglas
Fayette County Courthouse	Fayette
Holliday--Dorsey--Fife House	Fayette
King, Tandy, House	Fayette
61 16th Street Apartment Building	Fulton
63 Magnum Street Industrial Building	Fulton
705 Piedmont Avenue Apartments	Fulton
Academy of Medicine	Fulton
Adams, Charles R., Park	Fulton
Adams, Jack and Helen, Lustron House	Fulton
Alexander, Cecil and Hermione, House	Fulton
Apartments at 2 Collier Road	Fulton
Apartments at 22-24 Collier Road	Fulton
Arnold, Thomas P., House	Fulton
Ashby Street Car Barn	Fulton
Atlanta and West Point Railroad Freight Depot	Fulton
Atlanta Biltmore Hotel and Biltmore Apartments	Fulton
Atlanta Buggy Company and Warehouse--Hatcher Bros. Furniture Company	Fulton
Atlanta City Hall	Fulton
Atlanta Spring and Bed Company--Block Candy Company	Fulton
Atlanta Stockade	Fulton
Atlanta Waterworks Hemphill Avenue Station	Fulton
Atlanta Women's Club	Fulton
Ballard, Levi, House	Fulton

Resource	County
Baltimore Block	Fulton
Barrington Hall	Fulton
Bass Furniture Building	Fulton
Beavers, John F., House	Fulton
Brazeal, Dr. Brailsford R., House	Fulton
Briarcliff Hotel	Fulton
Brittain, Dr. Marion Luther, Sr., House	Fulton
Building at 161 Spring St.	Fulton
Bulloch Hall	Fulton
Burns Cottage	Fulton
Butler Street Colored Methodist Episcopal Church	Fulton
Campbell County Courthouse	Fulton
Candler Building	Fulton
Canton Apartments	Fulton
Capital City Club	Fulton
Carnegie Library of Atlanta	Fulton
Central Presbyterian Church	Fulton
Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Fulton
Citizen's and Southern Bank Building	Fulton
Coca-Cola Building Annex	Fulton
College Street School	Fulton
Coolidge, F. J., and Sons, Company--Hastings' Seed Company	Fulton
Cox--Carlton Hotel	Fulton
Crescent Apartments	Fulton
Crogman, William H., School	Fulton
Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta	Fulton
Davis, H.B., Building--Hotel Roxy	Fulton
Degive's Grand Opera House	Fulton
Dixie Coca-Cola Bottling Company Plant	Fulton
Ellis, Rutherford and Martha, House	Fulton
Empire Manufacturing Company Building	Fulton
English-American Building	Fulton
Epting, Thomas and Rae, Lustron House	Fulton
Farlinger	Fulton
Fire Station No. 11	Fulton
First Congregational Church	Fulton
First Methodist Episcopal Church, South	Fulton

National Register Historic Sites

Resource	County
Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant	Fulton
Forscom Command Sergeant Major's Quarters	Fulton
Fox Theatre	Fulton
Freeman Ford Building	Fulton
Fulton County Courthouse	Fulton
Garrison Apartments	Fulton
General Electric Company Repair Shop Warehouse	Fulton
Georgia State Capitol	Fulton
Gilbert, Jeremiah S., House	Fulton
Glenn Building	Fulton
Glenridge Hall	Fulton
Grady Hospital	Fulton
Grant Park North	Fulton
Grant, W. D., Building	Fulton
Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company	Fulton
Griffith School of Music	Fulton
Habersham Memorial Hall	Fulton
Harris, Joel Chandler, House	Fulton
Healey Building	Fulton
Herndon Home	Fulton
Highland School	Fulton
Hillyer Trust Building	Fulton
Home Park School	Fulton
Howell, Mrs. George Arthur, Jr., House	Fulton
Hurt Building	Fulton
Imperial Hotel	Fulton
Inman Park	Fulton
King Plow Company	Fulton
Knight, William and Ruth, Lustron House	Fulton
Kriegshaber, Victor H., House	Fulton
Long, Crawford W., Memorial Hospital	Fulton
Memorial to the Six Million	Fulton
National NuGrape Company	Fulton
New Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church and Cemetery	Fulton
Newtown Elementary School	Fulton
Nicolson, William P., House	Fulton
North Avenue Presbyterian Church	Fulton

Resource	County
Oakland Cemetery	Fulton
Odd Fellows Building and Auditorium	Fulton
Omega Chapter of the Chi Phi Fraternity	Fulton
Orr, J. K., Shoe Company	Fulton
Palmer House and Phelan House Apartments	Fulton
Park Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South	Fulton
Peachtree Christian Church	Fulton
Peachtree Heights Park	Fulton
Peachtree Southern Railway Station	Fulton
Peters, Edward C., House	Fulton
Piedmont Park	Fulton
Piedmont Park Apartments	Fulton
Pitts, Thomas H., House and Dairy	Fulton
Raoul, William G., House	Fulton
Retail Credit Company Home Office Building	Fulton
Rhodes Memorial Hall	Fulton
Rhodes-Haverty Building	Fulton
Roberts, Isaac, House	Fulton
Rock Spring Presbyterian Church	Fulton
Rose, Rufus M., House	Fulton
Rucker, Simeon and Jane, Log House	Fulton
Sardis Methodist Church and Cemetery	Fulton
Sciple, Charles E., House	Fulton
Selig Company Building	Fulton
Shrine of the Immaculate Conception	Fulton
Smith, Archibald, House	Fulton
Smith, Tullie, House	Fulton
Southern Bell Telephone Company Building	Fulton
Southern Belting Company Building	Fulton
Southern Dairies	Fulton
Southern Railway North Avenue Yards Historic District	Fulton
Southern Spring Bed Company	Fulton
Spotswood Hall	Fulton
St. Andrews Apartments	Fulton
St. Mark Methodist Church	Fulton
Staff Row and Old Post Area--Fort McPherson	Fulton
Stewart Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church South	Fulton
Stone Hall, Atlanta University	Fulton

National Register Historic Sites

Resource	County
Swan House	Fulton
Temple, The	Fulton
Texas, The	Fulton
Thornton, Albert E., House	Fulton
Thorton Building	Fulton
Tompkins, Henry B., House	Fulton
Trio Steam Laundry	Fulton
Troy Peerless Laundry Building	Fulton
Trygveson	Fulton
Tyler, Mary Elizabeth, House	Fulton
Tyree Building	Fulton
U.S. Post Office and Courthouse	Fulton
United States Post Office, Federal Annex	Fulton
Van Winkle, E., Gin and Machine Works	Fulton
Villa Lamar	Fulton
Wallace, Anne, Branch--Carnegie Library of Atlanta	Fulton
Washington, Booker T., High School	Fulton
Western and Atlantic Railroad Zero Milepost	Fulton
Western Electric Company Building	Fulton
Westinghouse Electric Company Building	Fulton
Wilson, Judge William, House	Fulton
Wincoff Hotel	Fulton
Winship, George, Jr., and Emily, House	Fulton
Witham, Stuart, House	Fulton
Wynne--Claughton Building	Fulton
Yonge Street School	Fulton
Adair, Isaac, House	Gwinnett
Alcovy Road Grist Mill	Gwinnett
Allen, Bona, House	Gwinnett

Resource	County
Allen, John Quincy, House	Gwinnett
Bona Allen Shoe and Horse Collar Factory	Gwinnett
Buford Public School Auditorium	Gwinnett
Craig, Robert, Plantation	Gwinnett
Gwinnett County Courthouse	Gwinnett
Hudson--Nash House and Cemetery	Gwinnett
Mechanicsville School	Gwinnett
Old Seminary Building	Gwinnett
Parks--Strickland Archeological Complex	Gwinnett
Superb, The	Gwinnett
Terrell, William, Homeplace	Gwinnett
Ware, Clarence R., House	Gwinnett
Winn, Elisha, House	Gwinnett
Wynne, Thomas, House	Gwinnett
Brown House	Henry
Crawford-Talmadge House	Henry
Globe Hotel	Henry
Griffin, Smith, House	Henry
Hampton Depot	Henry
Henderson Manufacturing Company	Henry
Henry County Courthouse	Henry
Hooten, James and Bertha, House	Henry
Locust Grove Institute Academic Building	Henry
Walden-Turner House	Henry
Almand--O'Kelley--Walker House	Rockdale
Dial Mill	Rockdale
Parker, Aaron and Margaret, Jr., House	Rockdale
Rockdale County Jail	Rockdale



CENTENNIAL OLYMPIC PARK / CREDIT: RAFTERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Olympic Legacy

Atlanta hosted the Summer Olympics in 1996, and the entire region and state had the benefit of the exposure as a world class city, capable of hosting such an event. The modern Olympics began in 1896, and since that time, only two other U.S. cities have had the distinction of serving as host communities. The 1996 games in Atlanta coincided with its centennial celebration, adding another level of significance to the experience. Within the Atlanta Region, Olympic events were held at fifteen different locations, but **Centennial Olympic Park** stands out as Georgia’s lasting legacy of the Centennial Olympic Games. Located in downtown Atlanta, the 21-acre park includes commemorative features such as 600,000+ engraved bricks sponsored by private donors; granite from each of the five continents represented in the Olympic Games; and the Fountain of Rings – using the Olympic symbol of five interconnected rings. As a symbol of the Olympic legacy in Georgia, Centennial Olympic Park has been identified as a Regionally Important Resource.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ government agency • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship

ARC Management Strategies

ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Centennial Olympic Park. The park is owned by the State of Georgia and operated by the Georgia World Congress Center Authority (www.centennialpark.com). It also benefits from a “Friends of” organization that provides additional financial resources.





KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK / CREDIT: ARC

Civil War Battlefields and Sites

The National Park Service has taken the lead on recognizing the importance of Civil War Battlefields within the context of our local and regional cultural heritage, as well as for their implications for our national history. Working through local partnerships with organizations such as the Georgia Battlefield Association, continued documentation has identified remnants of several significant sites in the Atlanta Region. These are sites of value as both historic resources and cultural landscapes. The Civil War Sites Advisory Commission has identified seven primary Civil War Battles that are associated with the Atlanta Campaign (1864) within the Atlanta Region: **Ezra Church/ Battle of the Poor House** (Fulton County); **Jonesborough** (Clayton County); **Kennesaw Mountain** (Cobb County); **Kolb's Farm** (Cobb County); **Lovejoy's Station** (Clayton County); **Peachtree Creek** (Fulton County); **Utoy Creek** (Fulton County). Nominations were also submitted for additional Civil War sites: **Nash Farm Battlefield Park** (Henry County) and the remnants of the earthwork **Shoupades** constructed by Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston (Cobb County).

In addition to battlefields, the Atlanta region has several sites affiliated with events of the Civil War, which are accessible to the public. Located in downtown Kennesaw, **Camp McDonald Park** (Cobb County) was a Confederate Civil War training ground.

The remnants of **Fort Walker** (Fulton County) are located in the city of Atlanta on the edge of National Register listed Grant Park. It includes the remains of earthworks that were formerly a four-gun battery. Also referred to as a *redoubt* (a protected place of refuge or defense), Fort Walker was constructed in 1863 as a part of the defensive line surrounding the city of Atlanta.

The **Judge William Wilson House** (Fulton County), is a two-story Greek Revival House constructed c. 1856. It was used as a temporary headquarters by General William Sherman during the Battle of Atlanta. It is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and a small cemetery on the property includes both family and slave burials.

The **Concord Bridge Historic District and Heritage Park**, including the site of the **Concord Woolen Mill** (Cobb County) was a complete mill community with a school, church and general store. Developed by Martin Ruff and Robert Daniel beginning in the 1830s, the Union Army destroyed the factory on July 4, 1864. Shortly thereafter on July 9, 1864, the Union Army had moved into Douglas County and burned the New Manchester Mills at Sweetwater Creek State Park, also a listed as a Regionally Important Resource. The Concord Woolen Mill was rebuilt in 1869, and Ruff and Daniel are also credited with building the Concord Covered Bridge in 1872.

Finally, cemeteries throughout the region include individual burials or small sections of Confederate soldiers. In addition to the Confederate Cemetery found at Oakland Cemetery (which is individually listed as a Regionally Important Resource), the **Jonesboro Confederate Cemetery** (Clayton County) and **Marietta Confederate Cemetery** (Cobb County) are both under the stewardship of the Georgia Building Authority in addition to four other confederate cemeteries in the State.

Civil War Battlefields and Sites

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ governmental agency • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened by destruction of subsurface resources, such as archaeological sites • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and easements • Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Civil War Battlefields and Sites. Many of the resources identified with the Civil War are located on private property. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park commemorates the battle that took place at Kennesaw Mountain, and includes resources such as Kolb's Farm. Nash Farm Battlefield is a Historic Park managed by Henry County, and one of the eight remaining earthwork Shoupadés in Cobb County will be located within a tract of land that has been acquired by the county. "Friends of" groups, including the River Line Historic Area Committee (Mableton Improvement Coalition) and the Friends of Nash Farm, provide additional resources to these sites. The Land for Camp McDonald Park was acquired by Cobb County, and a group of Friends of Camp McDonald Park advocate for the park's preservation and development (http://campmcdonaldpark.org/). Fort Walker falls under the stewardship of the City of Atlanta Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, but as an entity within Grant Park, also has a non-profit advocate in the form of the Grant Park Conservancy (www.gpconservancy.org). The Judge William Wilson house is currently privately owned, though efforts by the city of Atlanta have been initiated to acquire the property, and the Concord Bridge Historic District and Heritage Park is a locally designated historic district by Cobb County with conservation easements held by the Cobb Land Trust (http://www.cobblandtrust.org/html/heritage.html). The Jonesboro and Marietta Confederate Cemeteries are maintained by the Georgia Building Authority (www.gba.georgia.gov).</p>	



STONE MOUNTAIN

Archaeological Sites

Soapstone Ridge is a 25-square mile area lying in the southwest corner of DeKalb County, with smaller sections extending into Fulton and Clayton Counties. It is a low ridge, cut by several streams, rising from the south bank of the South River, containing the largest collection of archaic soapstone quarries used by Native Americans in the eastern United States. Archaeological surveys performed in the 1970s identified 65 archaeological sites. Since this time, many sites have been lost to the rapid residential development that took place from the 1980s to the early 2000s. Soapstone Ridge has also been designated as a local historic district governed by the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Ordinance, providing strict archaeological guidelines for areas within the local district. Among other things, these guidelines include a review procedure, requirement for an intensive field survey, and site preservation mechanisms.

The **Fort Daniel Archaeological Project** in Gwinnett County is included as a Regionally Important Resource for its historic value documenting late 18th/ early 19th century frontier settlement patterns in Georgia, and also as an example of the importance of preservation of archaeological sites and the role they play within a green infrastructure network. The effort to excavate and document Fort Daniel has been led by professional archaeologists and volunteers, including the efforts of the Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society. Their efforts have resulted in the Friends of Fort Daniel, which has since transformed itself into the non-profit Fort Daniel Foundation, Inc. They have been able to leverage funds to complete a master plan of the site to be developed as the Fort Daniel Historic Site and Archaeological Research Park. Once constructed, the park will serve purposes of both conservation and recreation, and provide a unique educational experience as well.

Within the Atlanta Region, there are numerous other sites that are either listed in the National Register or have been identified as potential National Register eligible archaeological sites. The rapid pace of development within the Atlanta Region has resulted in the alteration or demolition of buildings, sites, objects, landscapes and other traditional historic resources, making the archaeological record even more valuable. Soapstone Ridge and Fort Daniel are illustrative of the unique nature of these types of subsurface resources, and are representative of areas that can benefit from additional research and documentation. The map on the following pages identifies areas that have a high probability of yielding significant archaeological information, and is included herein for purposes of illustration.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ governmental agency • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened by destruction of subsurface resources, such as archaeological sites • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/ or easements • Lack of enforcement of existing regulations • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources

Archaeological Sites

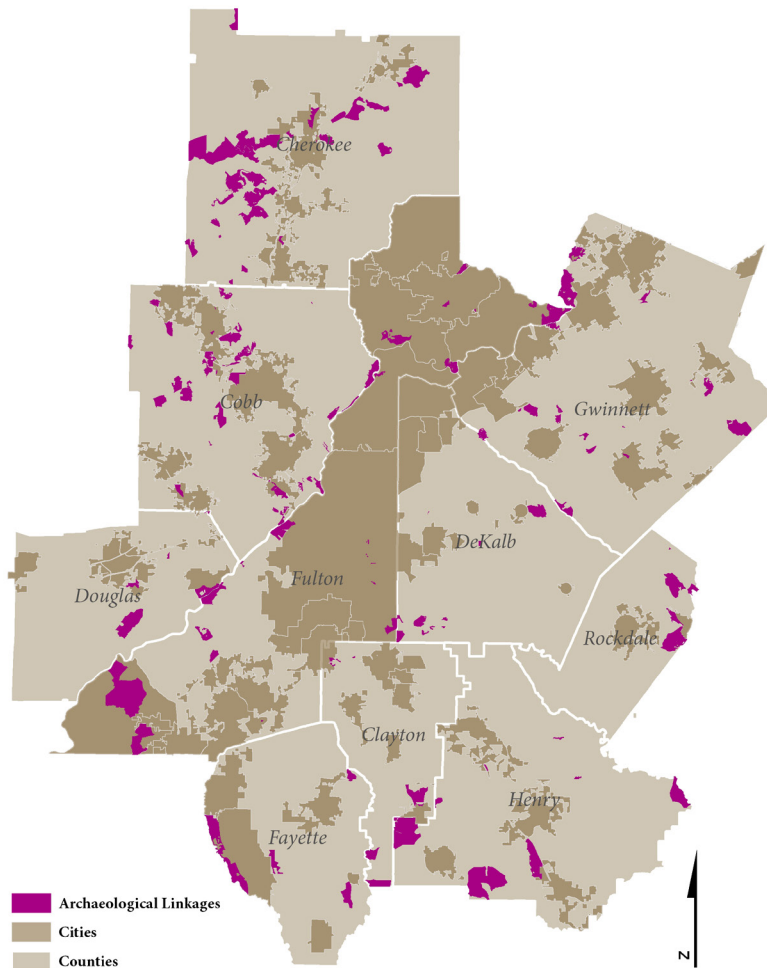
FIGURE 6

ARC Management Strategies

ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of archaeological and subsurface resources. Soapstone Ridge has been designated as a site on the National Register of Historic Places. Designation is an honorific title, which confers no additional regulations by the local government. National Register criteria are linked to certain preservation incentives, such as tax credits, and it also triggers a level of review in instances where federally funded, licensed or permitted activities may impact resources within the district. The programs are managed by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) which in Georgia is operated through the Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division (www.gashpo.org). Soapstone Ridge has also been designated as a local historic district governed by the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Ordinance (www.co.dekalb.ga.us/planning/mainPage). Fort Daniel is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, but there are currently no local protections for this site.

Greenspace Linkages

The Atlanta Region contains a vast archaeological record of significant events from the past. This includes, but is not limited to, sites associated with prehistoric communities and Civil War battles. Conventional practice dictates that specific knowledge of these sites is limited to credentialed professionals. As sites are better documented and protected, as is the case with Soapstone Ridge and Fort Daniel, they have potential to be classified as Regionally Important Resources. However, the generalized location of archaeological sites informs the Regional Resource Plan. Pursuant to the DCA Rules for Regional Resource Plans, these archaeological sites in the Atlanta Region are included as Greenspace Linkages as a backdrop to the Regionally Important Resources Map and help to form a continuous green infrastructure network. [Greenspace Linkages are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]





BASKET CREEK CEMETERY / CREDIT: ARC

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are areas established for, or containing graves, tombs or funeral urns. Common types of cemeteries include municipal cemeteries, religious cemeteries, military cemeteries, family cemeteries, and others established by private burial societies. Many cemeteries function as public greenspace and often include resources of both historic and cultural value as designed landscapes with monuments that reflect distinctive architectural features. Cemeteries also function as placeholders for past development patterns that have long since been lost to encroaching development.

Cemeteries included as Regionally Important Resources include those that are individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including **Oakland Cemetery** (Fulton County); **Basket Creek Cemetery** (Douglas County); **Marietta National Cemetery** (Cobb County); and **Decatur City Cemetery** (DeKalb County). Also, cemeteries that reflect distinctive design traditions are included as Regionally Important Resources, including **Westview Cemetery** (Fulton County); **Southview Cemetery** (Fulton County); and the **Georgia National Cemetery** (Cherokee County).

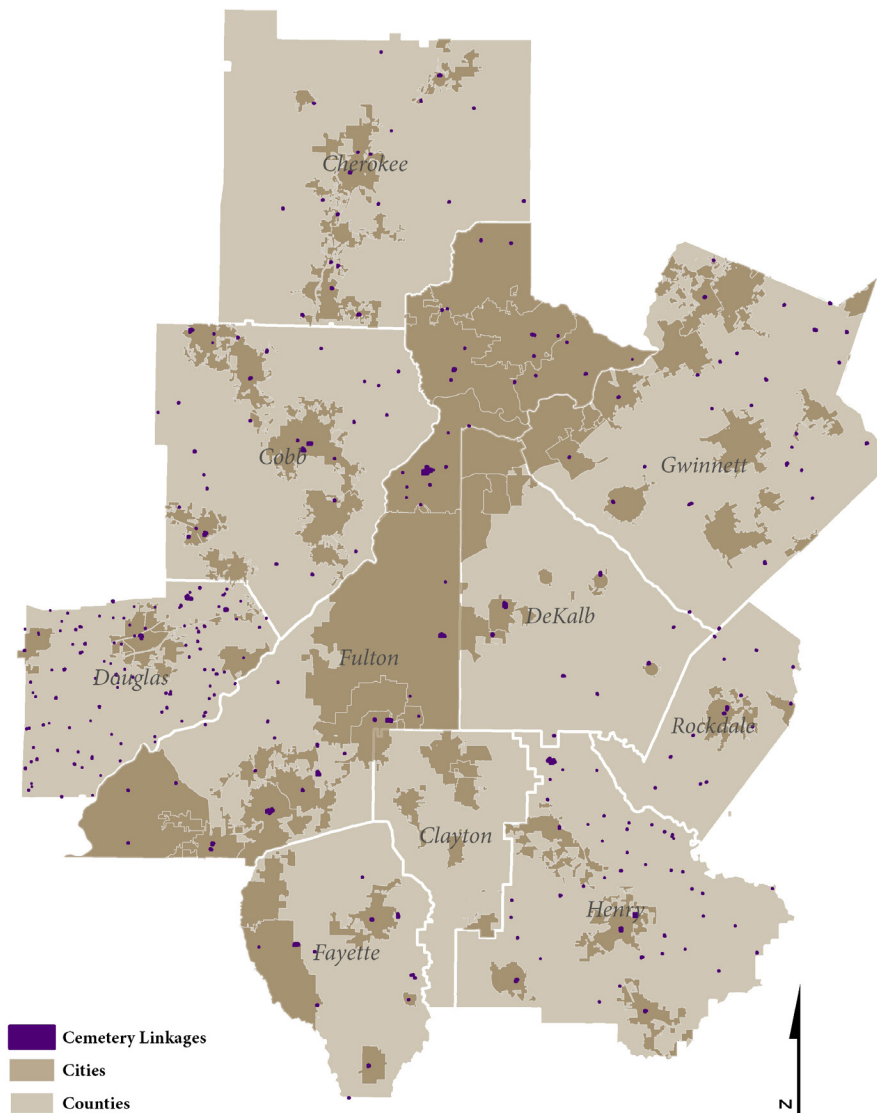
Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/ governmental agency • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threatened by destruction of subsurface resources, such as archaeological sites • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/or easements • Lack of enforcement of existing regulations • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of regionally important cemeteries. Typical of many older cemeteries, Oakland is managed through a partnership between the City of Atlanta and local non-profit organization (www.oaklandcemetery.com), while individual burial plots are owned by the individuals buried therein, and by extension, their families and descendants. Decatur City Cemetery is similarly managed (http://www.decaturga.com/index.aspx?page=291). Other historic cemeteries are managed by private burial societies, such as Southview (www.southviewcemetery.com) and Westview (http://www.westviewcemetery.com/home.php). Large military cemeteries are typically maintained by the federal government, such as Marietta National Cemetery (http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/marietta.asp) and the Georgia National Cemetery (http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/georgia.asp).</p>	
<p>ARC will continue to document existing cemeteries that contribute as regional Greenspace Linkages.</p>	

Cemeteries

FIGURE 7

Greenspace Linkages

Cemeteries also create a larger regional network of unique resources. Over 400 individual cemeteries have been identified in the Atlanta Region. Ongoing research will continue to identify previously undocumented cemetery sites. Cemeteries are significant not only as community greenspace, but also for their value as historic and cultural resources, genealogical records, and their value to foster a local sense of place. Pursuant to the DCA Rules for Regional Resource Plans, cemeteries in the Atlanta Region are included as Greenspace Linkages as a backdrop to the Regionally Important Resources Map and help to form a continuous green infrastructure network. [Greenspace Linkages are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]





MONASTERY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT / CREDIT: ARC

Cultural Sites

Cultural Sites include sites or corridors that express distinctive beliefs, qualities or ideas of regional importance. Cultural sites can include, but are not limited to

- Repositories for a collection of natural, scientific, historic, literary, artistic, or other cultural objects;
- Sites with distinctive features that are emblematic of the region; and/ or
- Cultural centers with strong cultural ties.

In the Atlanta Region, the following areas are included as cultural sites:

The National Archives - Southeast Region: The National Archives has 180,000 cubic feet of archival holdings dating from 1716. It is a center for the study of Southern history. Records in the National Archives tell the story of southern families and communities, technological advances that changed lives, and social and economic forces that shaped the makeup of society.

Georgia State Archives: The Georgia Archives identifies and preserves Georgia's most valuable historic documents. The Georgia Archives is the official repository of archival records for the U.S. State of Georgia. Together with the Georgia Capitol Museum, it forms the Georgia Division of Archives and History and is overseen by the office of the Georgia Secretary of State.

The Carter Center and the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum: The Carter Center, in partnership with Emory University, is guided by a fundamental commitment to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering. It seeks to prevent and resolve conflicts, enhance freedom and democracy and improve health. The Carter Center collaborates with other organizations, public or private, in carrying out its mission. The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum is part of the Presidential Library System administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. The Library includes material related to Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter and their family, as well as major figures and significant aspects of the Carter administration. The Museum includes a permanent exhibit of historical memorabilia from the Carter presidency, as well as gallery space for rotating exhibits.

Auburn Avenue Research Library: Anchoring the west end of the Sweet Auburn Historic District, the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History opened in May 1994 in Atlanta. A special library of the Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library System, it is the first public library in the Southeast to offer specialized reference and archival collections dedicated to the study and research of African American culture and history and of other peoples of African descent. In 2001 the Library received a Governor's Award in the Humanities.

Monastery of the Holy Spirit: The Monastery of the Holy Spirit is a Roman Catholic religious community located in Conyers, Georgia, which encompasses approximately 2,000 acres of land; home to a community of monks spanning several generations, who live, work and worship at the Abbey. At the Monastery, monks follow the Cistercian Order, a monastic society wholly ordered to contemplation. For over 60 years, the Monastery has been a place for everyone of all races, creeds, genders or backgrounds.

The Hindu Temple of Atlanta: Conceived of the 1970s, the groundbreaking for the Temple was held in 1986, with construction beginning in earnest in 1989. The various shrines that give the temple its unique architectural presence represent various deities and traditions from the Hindu culture. The temple serves a population greater than Metro Atlanta and Georgia, drawing visitors from the southeast and beyond.

Cultural Sites

Woodruff Arts Center: The Woodruff Arts Center is comprised of the Alliance Theater, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the High Museum of Art. 1.2 million visitors annually come through the Center.

Pemberton Place: Located in downtown Atlanta, this is the location of three attractions that have formed the core of a cultural district on the doorstep of the internationally famous Centennial Olympic Park. The Georgia Aquarium houses more than 100,000 animals in 10 million gallons of water. The World of Coca Cola tells the history of this international brand from its founding in Atlanta in 1886; and the Center for Civil and Human Rights connects Atlanta’s historic legacy of Civil Rights with the ongoing struggle for global civil and human rights. It also houses the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of financial resources for appropriate stewardship
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Cultural Sites in the region. ARC is undertaking a survey of arts of cultural institutions that may inform future work in this category. Currently, all identified cultural sites benefit from management and oversight of professional agencies capable of their stewardship.</p>	



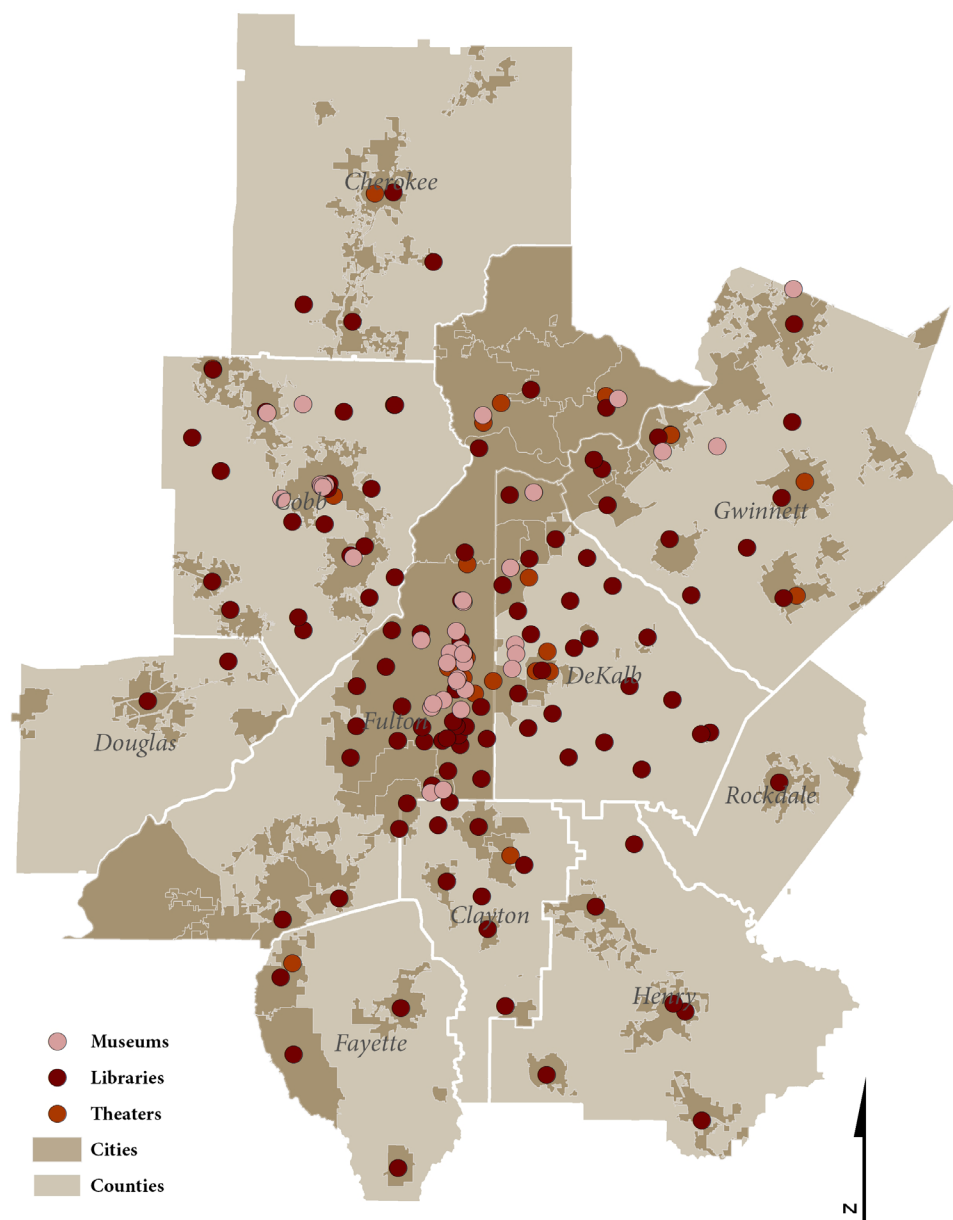
HIGH MUSEUM OF ART AT THE WOODRUFF ARTS CENTER / CREDIT: RAFTERMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Cultural Sites

FIGURE 8

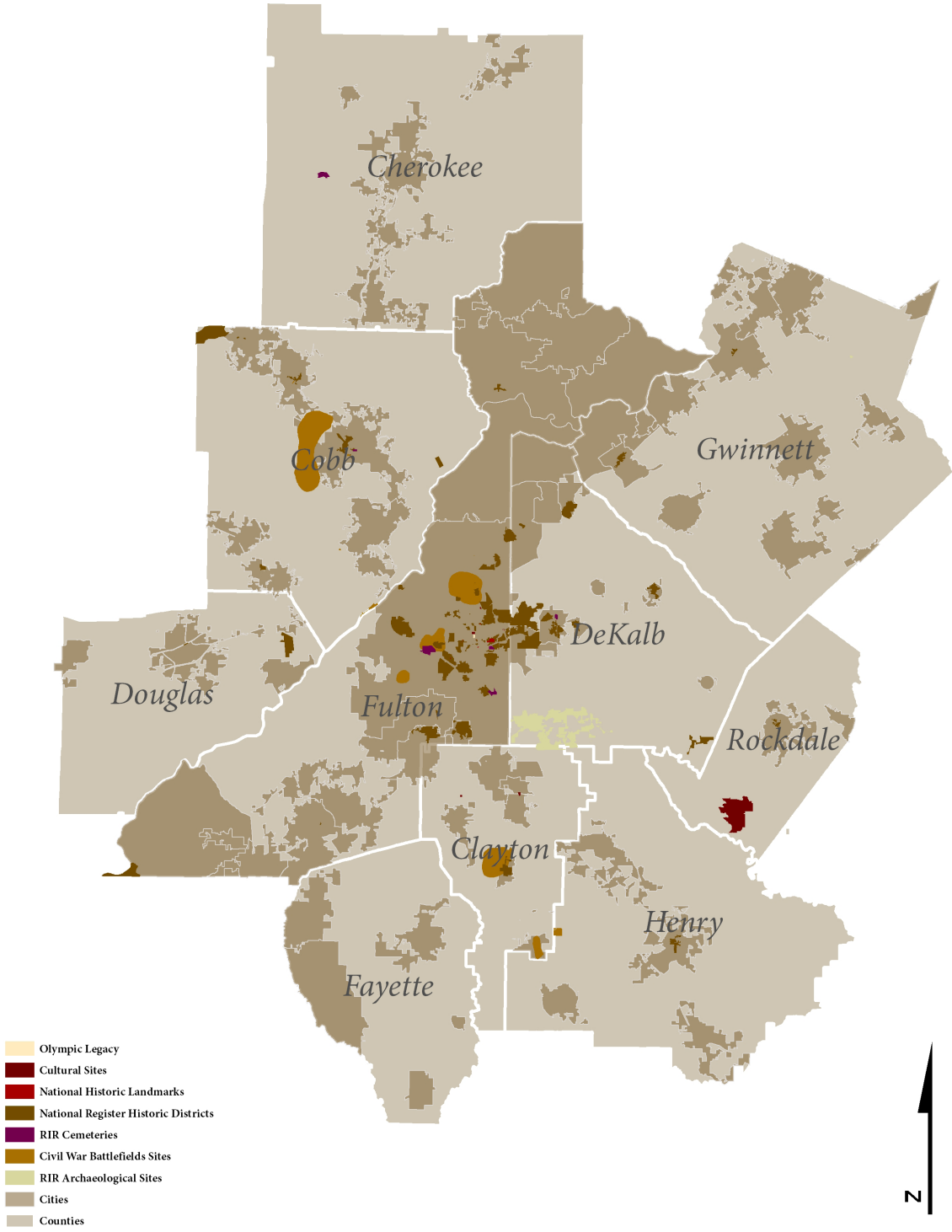
Cultural Connections

Metro Atlanta is home to world class cultural infrastructure. Over half of the cultural non-profit organizations in the State of Georgia are located in the 10-county Atlanta region, with over \$1.8 billion in assets. The Atlanta region also ranks at the top of the scale among our national peers in the number of arts related businesses and the employees that work in those industries. Libraries, museums, and theaters provide the front-line opportunities for public access to arts and cultural opportunities in communities across the region. [Cultural Connections are not considered to be Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]



HISTORIC AND CULTURAL REGIONALLY IMPORTANT RESOURCES

FIGURE 9



Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices

TABLE 7

<p><i>Matrix of Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices¹</i></p> <p>Historic and Cultural Resources</p>	<p>National Historic Landmarks</p>	<p>National Register Historic Districts</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy</p>	<p>Civil War Battlefields and Sites</p>	<p>Archaeological Sites</p>	<p>Cemeteries</p>	<p>Cultural Sites</p>
Site Design and Connectivity							
Do not disturb land in proximity to the boundary of a potential subsurface resource, such as a cemetery or archaeological site				X	X	X	
Where possible, use multi-use trails to link new developments to public access points for national or state parks and other recreation areas			X				
Architectural and Design Aesthetics							
Consider impact to viewsheds and take appropriate steps to mitigate impacts	X	X		X	X	X	
Design of new development should be compatible in terms of size, scale, and aesthetic appearance near existing resources	X	X	X				X
New developments should complement, but not copy, historic precedents	X	X					
Programs and Protections							
Consider the donation of a conservation easement for land that will be impacted by development in proximity to a historic or cultural resource, or rural or agricultural area	X	X	X	X	X	X	

¹ARC staff will use professional judgment to determine whether recommendations are applicable to a project under review within one mile of a Regionally Important Resource.

General Policies and Protection Measures

TABLE 8

<p><i>Matrix of General Policies and Protection Measures</i></p> <p>Historic and Cultural Resources</p>	<p>National Historic Landmarks</p>	<p>National Register Historic Districts</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy</p>	<p>Civil War Battlefields and Sites</p>	<p>Archaeological Sites</p>	<p>Cemeteries</p>	<p>Cultural Sites</p>
Regulations and Plans							
Within the context of a community green infrastructure plan develop local connections among regional parks, trails and other community resources			X	X			
Incorporate a heritage tourism and/ or agritourism component into community economic development plans	X	X		X			X
Site Design and Connectivity							
Establish criteria to identify potential corridors that possess unique natural, scenic, or cultural value		X		X	X		
Architectural and Design Aesthetics							
Document significant features that contribute to the scenic viewshed of natural, historic and rural areas and develop design guidelines to mitigate the visual impact of new development in these areas	X	X					
Understand and advocate the role that historic structures plan in promoting energy conservation and sustainable community design		X					
Programs and Protections							
Work cooperatively to develop a regional TDR program		X	X				
Implement a conservation easement donation program for the public holding of easements and/ or explore options for the fee simple ownership of greenspace by local governments				X	X	X	
Work proactively to foster partnerships/ “friends of” programs to enhance the effective stewardship of greenways, trails, parks, and historic and cultural resources	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pursue programs such as Preserve America and/ or Certified Local Government status to increase access to funding opportunities for historic and cultural resource protection	X	X					
Enhance traditional historic preservation efforts by developing an interpretive context through oral history, wayfinding signage, and installation of historic markers	X	X					

SCENIC AND AGRICULTURAL

The pace and scale of the urbanization that has taken place in the Atlanta Region has precluded many of the traditional land uses associated with the rural, agrarian character found throughout Georgia. Nonetheless, the desire of local communities to preserve what is left of their rural character coupled with a recent growth in the interest of locally grown and/ or organic foods calls attention to the unique nature of rural and agricultural uses within the Region. Portions of north and south Fulton County, western Douglas County, eastern Gwinnett County, western Cobb County, northern Cherokee County, and the South Fayette County/ Clayton County Panhandle area still retain much of the feel and character of rural communities. Local Comprehensive Plans for these areas reflect the desire to protect this character against the pressures of continued development. Within these areas, as well as other isolated pockets throughout the Atlanta Region, small-to-medium size farms have been able to engage in agricultural production. Much of this is done on a limited scale, and an informal survey of resources suggests that many of these farming efforts are sustained by access to local farmers markets or Community Supported Agricultural cooperatives. Community gardens are beginning to emerge in places like Decatur (Oakhurst Community Garden), Atlanta (Rose Circle Community Garden) and Suwanee (Harvest Farm at White Street Park).

Overall, each of these areas of agricultural and scenic value identified as Regionally Important Resources encompass a broad range of unique issues and opportunities. Their inclusion in this plan results from the distinctive niche they hold in an otherwise largely urban and suburban region. Within each, there is an array of existing mechanisms to control land use patterns – zoning and development regulations, overlay districts, and future development plans, to name a few. Identifying these areas as Regionally Important Resources reinforces many of the local policies and regulations that govern these areas and enhances the awareness of the value of cultural landscapes within these areas. Of all resources defined within this Plan, areas of agricultural and or scenic value can benefit from holistic land planning efforts that consider their value defined within a larger context and merges the best of natural resource conservation with historic preservation.



SOUTH FULTON SCENIC BYWAY / CREDIT: ARC

Rural Preserves

North Fulton County: The City of Milton comprises the northernmost tip of Fulton County. Incorporated in 2006, the city's vision statement draws a distinction between their goals and others in the urban Atlanta Region: Milton is a distinctive community embracing small-town life and heritage while preserving and enhancing our rural character. Numerous equestrian farms have developed in this region, and the topography reflects a noticeable shift between the Georgia Piedmont and the Blue Ridge environments. The Future Character Areas of their Comprehensive Plan Update rely heavily on descriptors of less intensity: Linear Greenspace, Equestrian Estates, Rural Residential, Agricultural Area, Conservation Area and Greenspace, Rural Village and Scenic Corridors.

Fulton County's Comprehensive Plan also identifies the importance of their rural resources. They identify numerous crossroads communities, or areas that were the "...hub of activities and services in the farming communities." The communities of Crabapple, Birmingham and Arnold Mill are identified as still maintaining a high degree of character, and others including Ocee, Fields Crossroads, Warsaw, Hopewell, Newtown, and Webb retain some level of identity, but have lost most of the buildings that formed the core of the communities. Crabapple, Birmingham, and Arnold Mill fall within zoning overlays in the city of Milton that allow significant opportunities for design review to preserve community character.

South Fulton County: Much of the area of South Fulton that falls within the designation as a Regionally Important Resource lies within the city of Chattahoochee Hills. Numerous nominations for potential resources were received within this area, including cemeteries, scenic views, parks, and watershed protection districts. The collective area identified as a Regionally Important Resource includes many of these areas that were nominated as individual sites. (Appendix C includes a complete list of nominated resources.)

Initiatives aimed at developing this area as a new model for sustainable development in the region have existed for some time. In addition to efforts to preserve and protect water quality and forest resources, Chattahoochee Hills has also developed a plan for a nearly 100-mile system of greenways and trails. Community members advocate for the increasing viability of small farms and preservation of agricultural uses. Enabling mechanisms are in place to use both transfer and purchase of development rights in this area. Also within the South Fulton area, the Georgia Scenic Byways Program has recognized the South Fulton Byway. It is a 29-mile loop that uses Cochran Mill Road, Hutcheson Mill Road and State Highway 70 and allows opportunities to view forest and pastoral landscapes through both motoring and cycling.

Gwinnett County: Two distinct character areas within Gwinnett County have been specifically designed to balance the demand for growth with the need for preservation. The Chattahoochee River Area is comprised primarily of residential development, but the county has determined a need to protect the Chattahoochee River and Lake Lanier through future development that is more environmentally sensitive. Additionally, the local plan found that there is little need or demand for intense development, such as mixed-use, conventional retail centers, industrial uses and multi-family housing. This area includes unincorporated Gwinnett County, as well as portions of Berkeley Lake, Duluth, Suwanee, Sugar Hill and Buford.

Areas of the eastern portion of Gwinnett County have been designated as Rural Estate Areas. This is intended to preserve the county's rural history while anticipating growth pressures that they are likely to see in the future. This area includes several other resources nominated as Regionally Important, including Tribble Mill Park and Harbins-Alcovy River Park.

Western Cobb County: Cobb County has designated areas within their community for limited lower density development. The areas denoted as Rural Residential in the Cobb County Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map likely do not have access to sewer and are not in proximity to major activity centers or public services. These areas are to be developed in a manner that helps protect rural character and environmentally sensitive areas. The area also includes natural and environmentally sensitive resources, particularly those associated with Lake Allatoona and its surrounding environs, that foster open space protection and preserve a sense of rural character.

Rural Preserves

North Cherokee County: Recognizing that large scale farming operations have ceased to be predominant in the county, the intent of the Rural Places Character Area is to provide for an agricultural-residential community that enhances the stewardship of natural and scenic environment. It promotes traditional rural home economies, limits the scale of commercial uses, and discourages suburban patterns of development. Identified elements key to the preservation of this character area include the limitation on sewer expansion and emphasis on greenspace conservation. Much of this area also coincides with land in the Etowah River Basin, which is home to several endangered wildlife species. This Etowah River Corridor will benefit from another level of natural resources management when the Etowah Conservation Habitat Plan is adopted.

West Douglas County: The health of the Dog River Watershed in western Douglas County is a key component of the county's efforts to maintain water quality. As a result the county has initiated efforts to protect land within the drainage basin of the Dog River Reservoir. In addition to water quality monitoring programs, the county developed a zoning classification that results in less impact from impervious surfaces and limited number of septic tanks. The county also imposes buffers and impervious surface limitations adjacent to rivers and streams.

South Fayette County/ Clayton County Panhandle: The significance of these areas as Regionally Important Resources is tied not only to their low density land use patterns and preservation of rural character, but also the importance of the unique ecosystem of the Flint River. The Flint River and surround lands are critical natural features in the southern portion of the Atlanta Region. The headwaters of the Flint River are within the Atlanta region, and it supplies water in the southern portion of the region. It is known for abundant wetlands and is home to several endemic fish species. The Flint River originates near the Hartsfield Jackson International Airport and flows south through Clayton County. All of Fayette County is within the Flint basin as well as portions of Clayton, Fulton and Henry Counties. The headwaters of the Flint River are highly impervious due to the presence of the airport and associated uses.

Much of this area of Clayton County is shown to be appropriate for agricultural or conservation use on its Future Land Use Map. This provides opportunities to preserve a lower density pattern of development that will lend itself to better protection for the health of the river basin. (The importance of River Basins in regional planning is addressed in Appendix A). Also within this area is a large facility operated by the Clayton County Water Authority that uses natural treatment systems to treat reclaimed water, including constructed wetlands. The Authority controls more than 4,000 acres of greenspace within this area.

In Fayette County, the RIR boundary is not only influenced by the geography of the river corridor, but also the county's commitment to protecting its southern portion as an Agricultural/ Residential Zone. Current zoning in the area limits development to one residential unit per five acres, which is the least intensive density in the Atlanta Region. Conservation mapping work by the State of Georgia also supports the need to conserve this area to further overall environmental quality.



LAKE LAURA GARDENS / CREDIT: ARC

Georgia Centennial Farms

The Georgia Centennial Farm Program recognizes the agricultural heritage of the state and the families who have been integral to its history. It focuses on farms that have been in operation for over a century - some held by the same family, and some meeting the criteria to be considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Centennial Farms in the Atlanta Region have not only been identified as significant historic resources and cultural landscapes by a state agency, but also connect with the ARC criteria of preserving significant working agricultural resources. Nine farms have been recognized in the Atlanta Region through the Centennial Farm Program: **A.W. Roberts Farm** (Cherokee County); **Lake Laura Gardens** (Cobb County); **Moss Clark Farm** (Henry County); **Fieldstone Farm** (Henry County); **Rolling Acres Farm** (Rockdale County); **Gresham Galt Farm** (Cherokee County); **Mabry Farm** (Cobb County); **Alfarminda Farm** (Gwinnett County); **Benfield Farm** (Gwinnett County).

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural or cultural resources identified by other state agencies and/or environmental protection organizations • Preserves water quality and quantity by protecting drainage, flood control, recharge areas, watersheds, buffers, etc. • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Preserves areas that have historical or cultural value by virtue of history, place or time period represented • Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Threatened by destruction of significant viewshed • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/or easements • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Centennial Farms. The designation as a Centennial Farm is administered through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which in Georgia is within the Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division (www.gashpo.org). Each farm is privately owned.</p>	



CHATTAHOOCHEE HILL COUNTRY / CREDIT: ARC

Georgia Agritourism Sites

The Georgia Agritourism Program fosters greater awareness of agritourism destinations by working with local farms to provide signage and other resources to increase visibility. Agritourism programs are a key benefit to maintaining the economic sustainability of regional resources of agricultural importance. Five farms have been recognized in the Atlanta Region through the Georgia Agritourism Program: **Rancho Alegre Farms** (Gwinnett County), **Southern Belle Farms** (Henry County), **Yule Forest/ The Pumpkin Patch** (Henry County), **Adams Farm** (Fayette County) and **Gibbs Gardens** (Cherokee County). Rancho Alegre Farms promotes a variety of opportunities, including field trips, camps, farmers market, and rental space in an environment that includes food gardens, livestock and other elements of agricultural education. Southern Belle Farms includes an operational dairy farm alongside a corn maze and pick your own berry patch. They also offer field trips, seasonal special events and rental space on the farm. Yule Forest/ The Pumpkin Patch has a diversified offering of farm activities that features pick-your-own berries, landscape and holiday trees, and an outdoor classroom experience. Adams Farm shares their produce through a roadside stand, pick-your-own berries, and sale of value added farm products. Gibbs Gardens is a private estate open to the public that features acres of formal gardens, including thousands of daffodils, extensive water lily gardens, and a Japanese garden.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A natural or cultural resource identified by other state agencies or environmental protection organizations • Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use • Threatened by adjacent development that is incompatible in terms of design, scale or land use • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/or easements
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Georgia Agritourism Sites. Both sites are private, family-owned operations. Information on Rancho Alegre Farm can be found at http://ranchoalegrefarm.com/; information on Southern Belle Farms can be found at http://southernbellefarm.com/index.php; information on Yule Forest can be found at http://www.aboutyule.com/; information on Gibbs Gardens can be found at http://www.gibbsgardens.com/; information on Adams Farm can be found at http://www.adamsfarmfayettevillega.com/.</p>	



ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS / CREDIT: ARC

Designed Landscapes

Criteria established by the ARC Board for consideration of Regionally Important Resources includes areas that create or preserve passive greenspaces including gardens. To further refine different types of gardens, the Designed Landscape category includes landscaped areas containing both plant materials and hardscape elements placed in an intentional design – formal or informal – including areas of institutional land uses. However, this category generally excludes areas used for food production or recreation, as the unique treatment of those resources is better defined elsewhere. In many instances, designed landscapes also include both historic and cultural value, by their association with historic sites or the presence of heirloom plan material. The Georgia Historic Landscape Initiative has identified several gardens in the Atlanta Region that have value as both historic resources and greenspace opportunities.

The Spring at Kennesaw: The records of the Georgia Historic Landscape Initiative identify that, “the spring provided water for 150 years to the people of the community. It was the main water source for Camp McDonald prior to and during the Civil War.” (Camp McDonald is also identified as a Regionally Important Resource for its value as a Civil War Site.) It speculates that the Standing Peachtree Trail, one of the first transportation routes in the area, was routed to pass by the spring. The Spring was included in the design of Kennesaw’s City Hall when their new building was constructed in 1983.

Archibald Smith Plantation Garden: The Archibald Smith Plantation originally sat on 300 acres of farmland in what is now Roswell. Although it now only sits on 8 of those original acres, many of the original ornamental plants still remain. The Roswell Garden Club maintains a Rose Garden on the property, and recreated an antebellum garden at the rear entrance. The house and land stayed in the family for 3 generations, since 1845. Now owned by the city of Roswell, tours are available of the house and grounds. Many features of the original gardens still remain like the stone terraces, and the greenhouse called a “cold frame” house.

Barrington Hall: Built from 1839-1842 on 12 acres at the highest point in Roswell, Connecticut architect Willis Ball designed the home. An unnamed landscape architect from England planned the ornate grounds, though the stone mason, also from England, is credited as Mr. Francis Minhinnett. Many remnants of the original garden design remain. The formal front gates leading to a heart shaped front drive is still lined with some cedars dating to the original planting. Original stone steps lead to boxwood plants that mark the spot where the formal gardens once grew. Remnants of an outbuilding occupy the work yard space at the rear of the large Greek revival home. Some of the hydrangeas planted by the original owner, Barrington King, still survive in the northeast corner of the remaining 6 acre grounds.

Bulloch Hall: Bulloch Hall bears a great resemblance to Barrington Hall. The home, built in 1840 by the same Connecticut architect, Willis Bail, also has a heart shaped front drive. Though little is known about the original design of the grounds, many of the original trees remain. This house was the childhood home of Mittie Bulloch, mother of Theodore Roosevelt, a further claim to fame of the site.

Goodrum – Abreau House and Grounds: The house and gardens are a superb example of Regency design in the Atlanta area. Noted Atlanta architect Phillip Trammell Shutze designed the home and grounds from 1929-1930. Many features of this design remain: serpentine walled garden, the temple, the front gate and walkway, the fish pond, a boxwood theater, and the perimeter wall along West Paces Ferry Road.

Iris Garden: The once clay ravine near Ansley Park, is now a “beautiful showcase of irises.” The garden is maintained by the city of Atlanta and the Iris Garden Club. The beautiful plants showcase the natural spring pools, park benches, and mature trees.

Woodhaven (Georgia State Governor’s Mansion): Woodhaven was the name of a Tudor-Revival estate house that occupied the grounds of the current Georgia State Governor’s Mansion. The estate house was demolished (partially by fire) to make way for the current structure built in 1967, but much of the design of the grounds was left intact from the

Designed Landscapes

days of Woodhaven. The records of the Georgia Historic Landscape Initiative describe it as, “the first great estate built in the historic West Paces Ferry Road district in Atlanta, the original site included a grand rambling English Tudor manor surrounded by a large wooded estate. Expressing a close relationship between exterior and interior spaces, the formal and informal gardens, especially the unusual terraced gardens, were perhaps the first of their design, size, and complexity in the Atlanta area.” Many of the original landscape design elements remain, including the sunken fountain, the pergola, and the carriage house.

The Atlanta History Center Grounds, including the Swan House Gardens and Grounds: The Atlanta History Center includes several distinct designed landscapes on the 33 acre property.

- *The Mary Howard Gilbert Memorial Quarry Garden* – Located on 3 acres, this site includes a collection of nearly 600 species of plants native to pre-settlement Georgia, many of which could be classified as rare or endangered.
- *Tullie Smith Farm Gardens* – Located adjacent to the 1840s Tullie Smith Farmhouse, the Farm Gardens are a demonstration garden that teaches visitors about mid-nineteenth century plants, including those for grown for consumption, for economic production, and ornamentals.
- *Cherry Sims Asian American Garden* – This garden includes both native plants and exotic imports of Asian origin, many of which were widely used by Southern Gardeners after their introduction to America in the late-eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.
- *Frank A. Smith Rhododendron Garden* – This garden demonstrates a contemporary landscape design populated by shade tolerant plants that thrive throughout the region.
- *Swan House Gardens and Grounds* – The records of the Georgia Historic Landscape Initiative describe the gardens as having a “distinctly Italian flavor.” Both the Swan House and its grounds were designed by Phillip Trammel Shutze. Historic design features that still remain include its cloverleaf pools, formal gardens, cascading fountains, and a terraced lawn.
- *Swan Woods Trail* – This area includes 10 acres of wooded landscape. It includes native trees, ferns and wildflowers, as well as the remnants of nineteenth century cotton terracing which predated the suburban development of the Buckhead area.

In addition to sites identified by the Georgia Historic Landscape Initiative, other Designed Landscapes can be seen throughout the region, which include elements of historic value, species diversity, and a unique design aesthetic.

Hartsfield Jackson International Airport Floral Clock: A floral clock recently installed at the entrance to the Hartsfield Jackson International Airport. The floral clock as a design motif is borrowed most recently from the Victorian Era, and there are less than 100 known floral clocks in the world. The airport clock is illuminated with LED lights, irrigated with recycled rainwater and contains a mix of perennials and drought-tolerant annuals.

Atlanta Botanical Gardens: First developed in the late 1970s, the Botanical Gardens have evolved over its 35 year history in its mission to, “develop and maintain plant collections for display, education, research, conservation and enjoyment.”

Lewis Vaughn Botanical Garden: Centrally located in downtown Conyers (Rockdale County), the site offers examples of native plants from the Piedmont region, a landscaped water feature, and an open air pavilion.

Claude T. Fortson Memorial Garden: The Claude T. Fortson Memorial Garden, also known as Miss Claude’s Garden, is located in downtown Hampton and includes walking trails and shade trees. The garden is open to the public.

Designed Landscapes

Cator Woolford Gardens: The Cator Woolford Gardens, part of the Frazer Center, are part of a 39 acre wooded estate formerly owned by the Woolford family. The garden is open to the public.

Callenwolde Park: The grounds of the Callenwolde Estate include 12 acres of lawns, gardens, nature trails and a rock garden. A restoration effort was undertaken by the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, and the property is owned and maintained by DeKalb County.

Value	Vulnerability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource nominated by an individual, interested organization, local government/governmental agency • Creates or preserves active or passive greenspaces including trails, gardens and informal places of natural enjoyment in areas currently underserved by greenspace • Preserves significant working agricultural or forest resources and/or creates opportunities for local food production activities • Areas that contribute to region-wide connections between existing and proposed regional resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluctuations in land values threatens economic viability of current use • Lack of protection through adequate regulations and/or easements • Lack of long-term ownership plan/ transitional ownership for some parts of the resources
ARC Management Strategies	
<p>ARC will continue to support existing programs and regulations for the management of Community Gardens. Most Gardens are operated by a non-profit organization that oversees their management and maintenance, and some community gardens are located on public park land. Many gardens maintain websites, including Truly Living Well (http://www.trulylivingwell.com/); Oakhurst Community Garden (http://oakhurstgarden.org/); Harvest Farm (http://www.suwanee.com/communitygarden.php); Tapesetry WIC Garden (http://www.acfb.org/projects/community_garden/wic.shtml); Mableton Community Garden (http://www.mableton.org/CommunityGarden.html). ARC will continue to work to document community gardens around the region as a part of the larger green infrastructure network.</p>	
<p>The Atlanta Regional Commission Community Gardening Manual can be found at http://documents.atlantaregional.com/aging/ascommunitygardensummitmanual2.pdf</p>	



COMMUNITY GARDENS OF HENRY COUNTY AT HERITAGE PARK / CREDIT: ARC

Urban Agriculture

The Regional Resource Plan gives consideration to areas that create or preserve passive greenspaces including gardens, as well as opportunities for local food production activities. This plan includes three distinct areas for their contribution to local food production: Community Gardens, Urban Farms and Urban Orchards. These types of Urban Agriculture may be distinct from each other, or found in combination. This plan also recognizes School Gardens and other types of education gardens for their contribution to buildings awareness of the importance of the local food system, the science of agricultural production and the value of good nutrition.

Community Gardens are greenspace areas used for limited production of food and/or ornamental plants that are gardened and managed collectively by a limited group of individuals, and effectively combine both of these goals. The Atlanta Region has seen an increased number of Community Gardens develop to serve diverse populations. They are sponsored by a variety of different organizations for different goals, but in general provide access to fresh healthy foods and ensure greater food security to those who benefit from them. The *ARC Community Garden Manual* identifies a number of benefits of community gardens, including improved quality of life; a catalyst for neighborhood and community development; reduction in family food budgets; preservation of greenspace; and opportunities for intergenerational and cross-cultural connections.



BOULEVARD COMMUNITY GARDEN / CREDIT: ARC

Urban Farms are generally larger in scale than community gardens, and are often cultivated for the commercial sale of products as an agriculturally-oriented business. Some urban farms may be developed in combination with a community garden; some may be operated as a home-based business; some may be operated on agricultural land leased or owned for the purpose. Urban farms in metro Atlanta include the cultivation of wide variety of local fruits, vegetables and flowers; beekeeping for honey; animal husbandry such as goats and cows for meat and dairy; sheep and alpacas for wool; poultry and eggs; and a range of value added products including cheese, condiments and preserves.

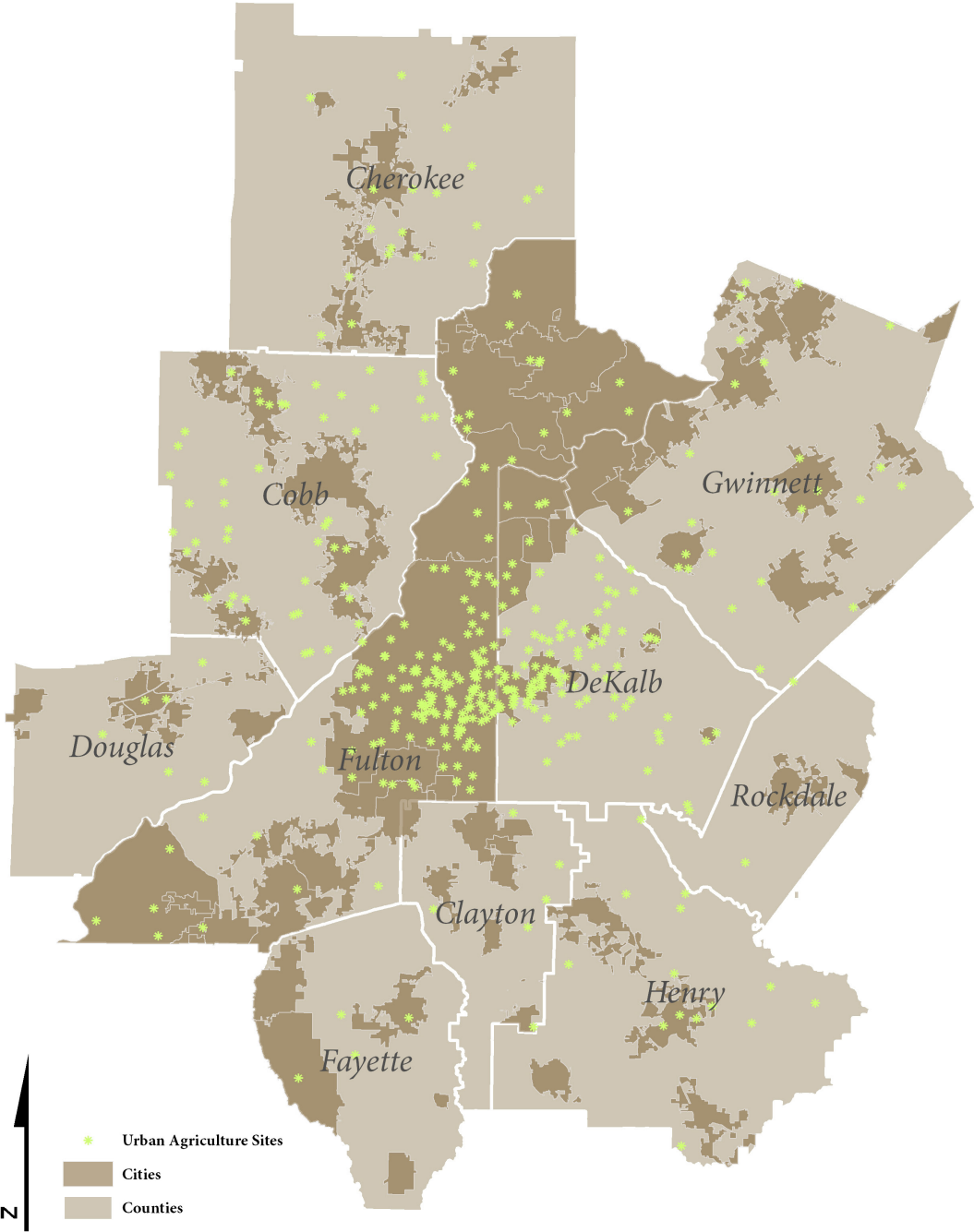
Urban Orchards are found in combination with Community Gardens and Urban Farms, or as their own grove. Urban orchards are increasingly found at public facilities such as fire stations and public schools, as well as in public parks. Orchards typically include fruit and nut trees, and often require less regular maintenance than community gardens or urban farms. Produce from orchards is harvested and donated to a local food bank.

Urban agriculture contributes physically, socially and economically to the health of local communities in metro Atlanta. The metro region will benefit from the continued development of policies and ordinances to promote agricultural activities such as those highlighted in this section. [Urban agricultural sites are not considered Regionally Important Resources for the purposes of this plan.]

Urban Agriculture

FIGURE 10

Greenspace Linkages



Urban Agriculture Case Studies

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to urban agriculture for a community. The following case studies highlight various approaches undertaken throughout the Atlanta region, and underscore the presence of urban agriculture enterprises throughout the 10-County Metro Area. The scalability of agriculture as an economic enterprise – from cottage industry to community supported agriculture – adds a robust element to the economic vitality of the region. Gardens and farms are created, managed and championed through a network of regional partnerships that include local governments, non-profit organizations, for-profit commercial enterprises, community advocates, and the end-product consumer.

City of Atlanta Urban Agriculture Zoning: Through a multi-year process, the city of Atlanta developed a zoning ordinance that allows for either urban gardens or market gardens in every zoning district in the city.

City of Lovejoy City Garden (Clayton County): Using CDBG funds, the City of Lovejoy developed a 14 acre garden that provides fresh produce year round for free, regardless of income level.

Global Growers Network (DeKalb County): Comprised of multiple distinct gardens, the Global Growers Network is identified with the refugee community of Central DeKalb County that has used this organization to grow culturally specific vegetables from their native countries and connect with others who have relocated to the United States.

Community Gardens of Henry County (Henry County): This network of gardens is managed by a central non-profit organization and is one of the top three contributors to the Plant a Row for the Hungry Program in the region.

Stems and Roots (Douglas County): This backyard garden makes use of raised beds, container gardening and small greenhouses, along with a hive of bees to assist with pollination. The harvest from Stems and Roots has a presence at several community farmers markets.

Sweetwater Growers (Cherokee County): This hydroponic growing operation delivers Georgia Grown herbs and lettuce to commercial markets throughout the southeast.



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL
MEMBERS AT TRULY LIVING WELL
URBAN FARM / CREDIT: ARC

Mableton Community Garden (Cobb County): This garden is a part of the Lifelong Mableton Initiative, a partnership among ARC, Cobb County, and the local community in Mableton to create a thriving community for all ages.

Metro Atlanta Urban Farm (Fulton County): This operation grows on five acres in an urban environment with an emphasis on the equitable distribution of healthy foods and focus on community building.

Two Doves Farm (Fayette County): This Certified Organic Farm also focuses on sustainable practices include generating solar energy and hydroponic growing. Pollination is aided by a hive of bees and pest control is assisted by flocks of chickens.

Harvest Farm at White Street Park (Gwinnett County): A community garden that is part of the City of Suwanee municipal park system, this site provides 76 plots to citizens for the organic cultivation of flowers, fruits and vegetables.

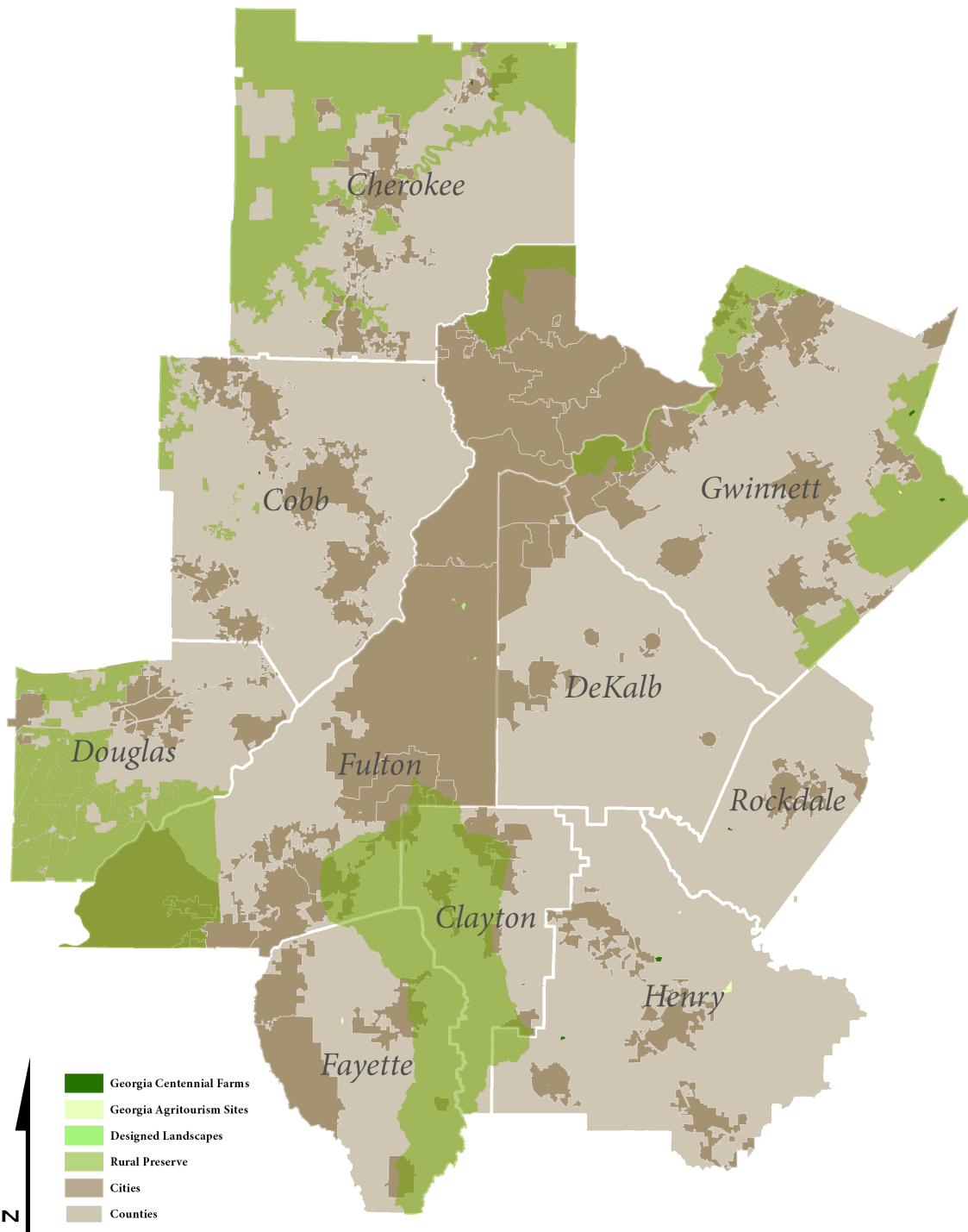
Conyers Locally Grown (Rockdale County): This online market provides a forum for local growers in proximity to Conyers and Rockdale County to distribute produce, meat and value added products through a central site. Orders are delivered weekly to a central distribution point in the city of Conyers.



HARVEST FARM AT WHITE
STREET PARK / CREDIT:
SUWANEE

SCENIC AND AGRICULTURAL REGIONALLY IMPORTANT RESOURCES

FIGURE 11



Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices

TABLE 9

<p><i>Matrix of Guidance for Appropriate Development Practices¹</i></p> <p>Areas of Agricultural and/or Scenic Value</p>	<p>Rural Preserves</p>	<p>Georgia Centennial Farms</p>	<p>Georgia Agritourism Sites</p>	<p>Designed Landscapes</p>
Regulations and Plans				
Where practical, exceed minimum required buffers from protected areas	X			
Encourage the voluntary set aside of land in a development that is part of a conceptual greenway connectivity plan	X			
Site Design and Connectivity				
Where possible, retain existing vegetation and topography	X		X	
Do not disturb land in proximity to the boundary of a potential subsurface resource, such as a cemetery or archaeological site	X			
Incorporate, as practical, edible landscape options or space for community gardens within community common areas or buffers	X		X	
Where possible, use multi-use trails to link new developments to public access points for national or state parks and other recreation areas				X
Architectural and Design Aesthetics				
Consider impact to viewsheds and take appropriate steps to mitigate impacts	X			X
Design of new development should be compatible in terms of size, scale, and aesthetic appearance near existing resources	X	X		
Programs and Protections				
Consider the donation of a conservation easement for land that will be impacted by development in proximity to a historic or cultural resource or rural or agricultural area	X	X		X
Voluntary covenants should be placed on adjacent developments that acknowledge the right to farm of existing agricultural operations	X	X	X	

¹ARC staff will use professional judgment to determine whether recommendations are applicable to a project under review within one mile of a Regionally Important Resource.

General Policies and Protection Measures

TABLE 10

<i>Matrix of General Policies and Protection Measures</i> Areas of Agricultural and/ or Scenic Value	Rural Preserves	Georgia Centennial Farms	Georgia Agritourism Sites	Designed Landscapes
Regulations and Plans				
Within the context of a community green infrastructure plan develop local connections among regional parks, trails and other community resources	X			X
Ensure that local ordinances do not preclude existing agricultural uses, nor the development of new agriculturally-oriented businesses, such as equestrian uses, home occupations, and local food production, where appropriate	X	X	X	
Clearly define animal units per zoning district that are appropriate to the scale of agricultural operations within the community	X		X	
Incorporate a heritage tourism and/ or agritourism component into community economic development plans	X	X	X	
Site Design and Connectivity				
Adopt a conservation subdivision/ cluster subdivision option where appropriate; review and revise existing conservation subdivision/ cluster subdivision ordinances to ensure they accomplish conservation goals	X			
Establish criteria to identify potential corridors that possess unique natural, scenic or cultural value	X		X	
Architectural and Design Aesthetics				
Document significant features that contribute to the scenic viewshed of natural, rural, and agricultural areas and develop design guidelines to mitigate the visual impact of new development in these areas	X	X	X	
Programs and Protections				
Work cooperatively to develop a regional TDR program	X	X	X	X
Implement a conservation easement donation program for the public holding of easements and/ or explore options for the fee simple ownership of greenspace by local governments	X			X
Work proactively to foster partnerships/ “friends of” programs to enhance the effective stewardship of greenways, trails, parks and historic and cultural resources	X	X		X
Enhance traditional historic preservation efforts by developing an interpretive context through oral history, wayfinding signage, and installation of historic markers	X			