




OUR FIRST FIVE YEARS

2010 - 2015



A woman with long brown hair and a bright smile stands in front of a cascading waterfall. She is wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a graphic of a whale's tail and the text 'Save the Water'. The background is a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

“So much has been
accomplished since Coosa
Riverkeeper was founded in 2010,
but only as a result of the work
and support of so many individuals.

See what these members,
volunteers and Board members
have to say about our first five
years, and **join us on our**

journey through the next five!”

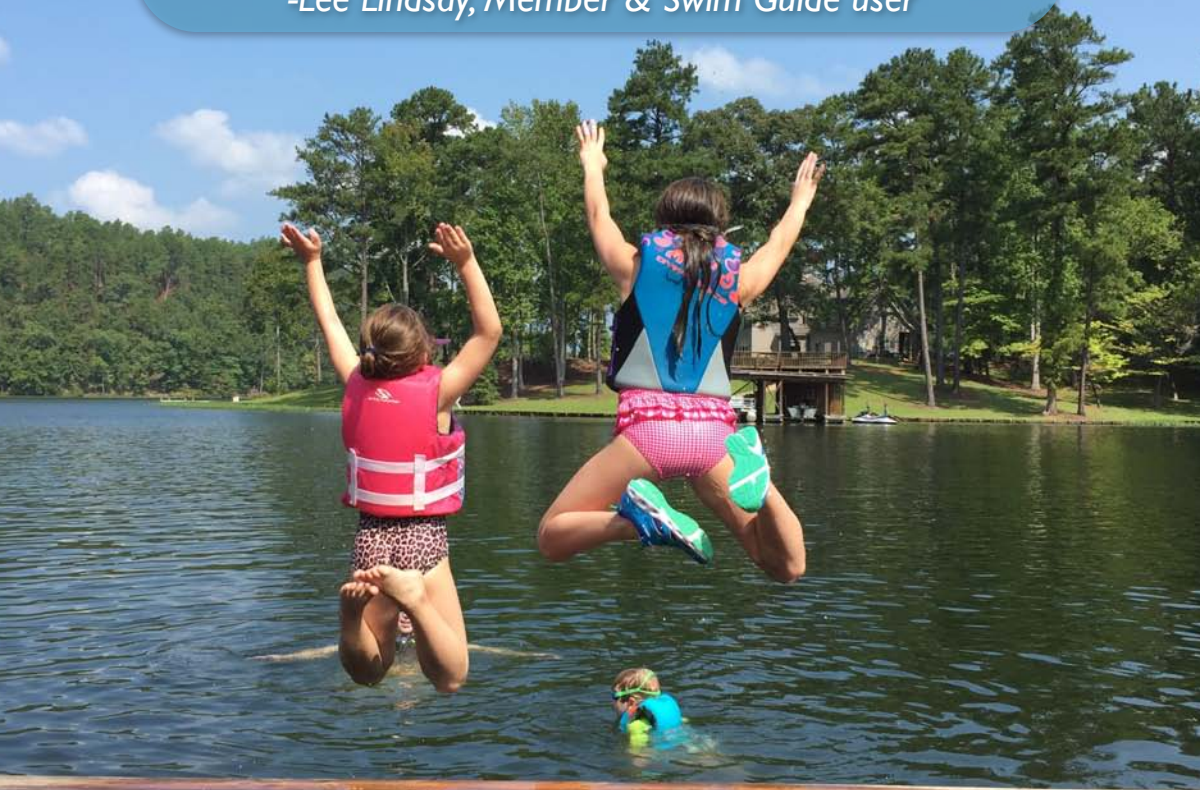
-Justinn Overton, Executive Director

Coosa Riverkeeper works towards our vision of a **swimmable, fishable Coosa River** by patrolling the waters, educating the public and advocating on behalf of the River. Our mission is to **protect, restore and promote** the Coosa.



“Coosa Riverkeeper’s Swim Guide program (begun in 2015) **informs the public** when an area is unsafe for swimming. The free text message and e-mail alert system reassures us **it’s safe to jump in!**”

-Lee Lindsay, Member & Swim Guide user



See Swim Guide in action at: CoosaRiver.org/SwimGuide



2015 Swim Guide by the Numbers

328 samples collected

16 sites monitored for 14 weeks

13 water quality alerts issued

142 subscribers to e-alert system

141 violations of Alabama water quality standards documented

53,824 views on Facebook alone

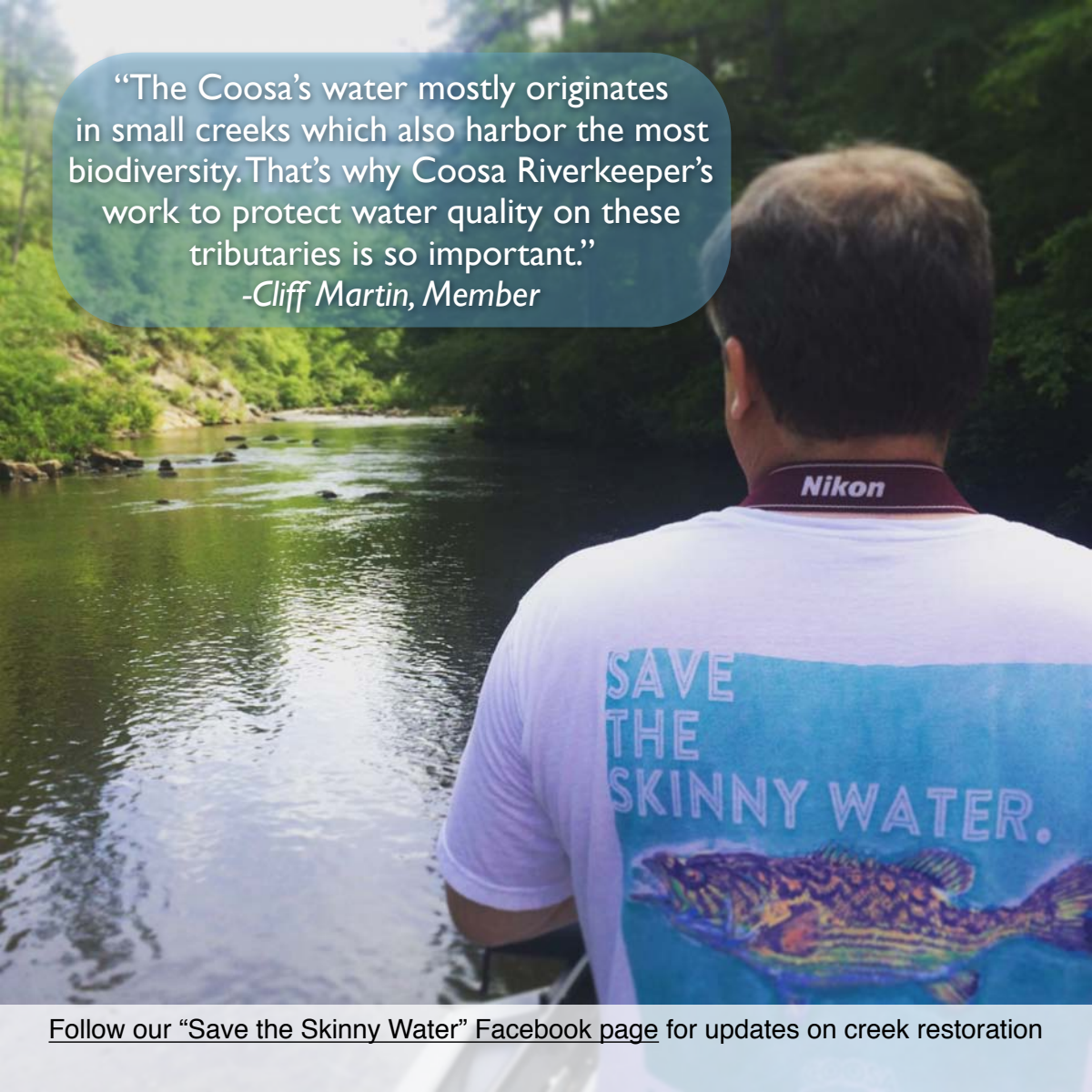
“Coosa Riverkeeper’s
role in the partnership to
remove Goodwin’s Mill Dam
in 2013 was essential to
restoring fish passage
on Big Canoe Creek for the
first time in 130 years.”
-Paul Freeman, Member



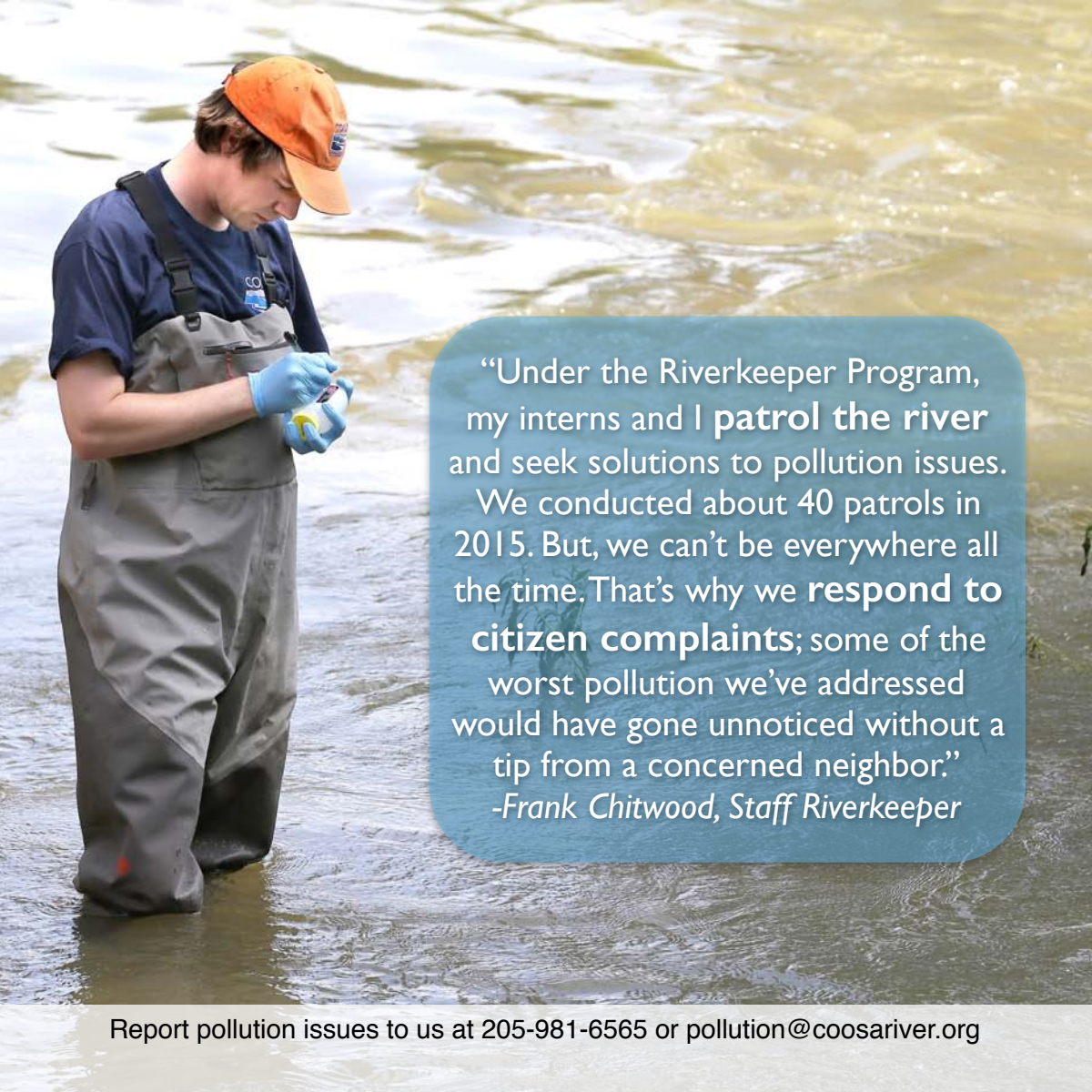
See the dam come down! [Search YouTube for “Goodwin’s Mill Dam Removal”](#)

“The Coosa’s water mostly originates in small creeks which also harbor the most biodiversity. That’s why Coosa Riverkeeper’s work to protect water quality on these tributaries is so important.”

-Cliff Martin, Member



Follow our “Save the Skinny Water” Facebook page for updates on creek restoration



“Under the Riverkeeper Program, my interns and I **patrol the river** and seek solutions to pollution issues. We conducted about 40 patrols in 2015. But, we can’t be everywhere all the time. That’s why we **respond to citizen complaints**; some of the worst pollution we’ve addressed would have gone unnoticed without a tip from a concerned neighbor.”
-Frank Chitwood, Staff Riverkeeper

Report pollution issues to us at 205-981-6565 or pollution@coosariver.org

“Our summer project sampling Choccolocco Creek revealed several areas with **poor water quality** that Coosa Riverkeeper can target for **restoration**.”

-Ania Burwell and Kiana Hunter, Interns




See the results of their Choccolocco Creek Monitoring Project on our website

“Our family loves coming to the Coosa Canoe & Kayak Fishing Tournament series where we **learn about river conservation** while having a great time with like-minded folks. We never miss the opportunity to **fish for the river.**”
-Michael Kiser, Member



Check out our tournament trail at CoosaKayakFishing.com

A photograph of a large group of people dining outdoors at night. They are seated at long tables, and the scene is illuminated by warm, ambient lighting. In the background, a building with large windows and a blue sign is visible. The overall atmosphere is social and festive.

“The Cheers to the Coosa dinner series is a wonderful fundraiser where guests learn how every bite of food and sip of drink is **connected to the river**. Since we started hosting dinners in 2012, we’ve raised over \$40,000 towards our work”
-Beth Maynor Young, Treasurer

Our most recent dinner at Good People Brewery raised over \$6,000



“I grew up fishing on the Coosa River, like so many others who never knew that many of the fish are contaminated. These **fish belong to the people**, not the polluters! Coosa Riverkeeper’s Fish Guide program (begun in 2013) **educates fishermen** about fish consumption advisories.”

*-James Eubank,
Advisory Council Member*

Learn more about fish advisories at CoosaRiver.org/Programs/FishGuide

“Our **volunteers** contribute so much to this organization. Last year, our volunteers worked 500 hours. In 2015, they’re on track to surpass 700 hours. **Their time is worth \$16,000** to us!”

-Jason Wilson, Board Member



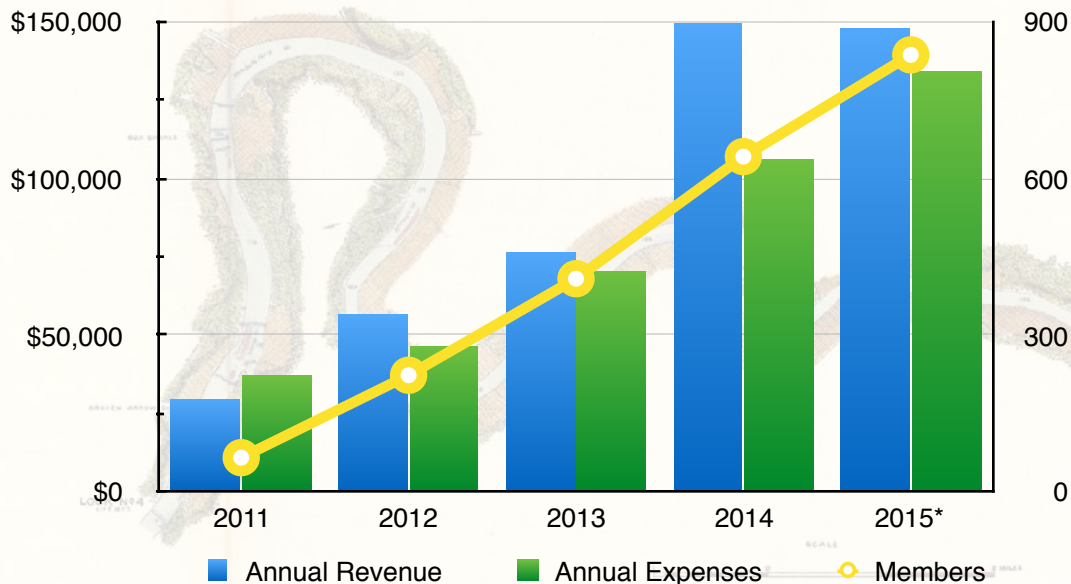
To get involved in volunteering, email us at volunteer@coosariver.org!

OUR GROWTH

“The growth of Coosa Riverkeeper’s membership drives the growth of our programs. As shown in our first five years, **your support makes all the difference.**”

-Dr. Bryan Burgess, Founding Board Member

Annual Revenue, Expenses, and Membership Numbers



*2015 year-to-date as of October 20, 2015. Accounting period is calendar year basis.

A photograph of a sailboat on a body of water. The boat's white sail is visible in the upper left, and the deck with various ropes and a rope spool is in the foreground. The water is blue with some ripples. In the background, there's a dark shoreline with trees. A semi-transparent blue rounded rectangle contains white text.

“With your **wind in our sails**, we can
accomplish even more in the next five years than
the first! **So step on board or jump in!**
Your support makes it all possible!”
-Doug Morrison, President

To become a member, visit CoosaRiver.org/Donate

COOSA



RIVERKEEPER®

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