



NEWSLETTER

Volume 1

December 2022

Clean Water Alabama

The mission of Clean Water Alabama is to engage the citizens of Alabama to take the necessary actions to ensure that our water resources (rivers, streams, lakes, bays and coast) are protected from those items that make them unsafe to its citizens, and the plant and animal life that live within and around.

From the President

We are excited to welcome you to our inaugural newsletter. Founded almost three years ago, Clean Water Alabama has made amazing progress in our efforts to educate and influence best practices to help make our waterways safe and healthy for generations to enjoy. I am honored to take over the great work accomplished from our previous President John Manelos.



John O'Melveny Woods

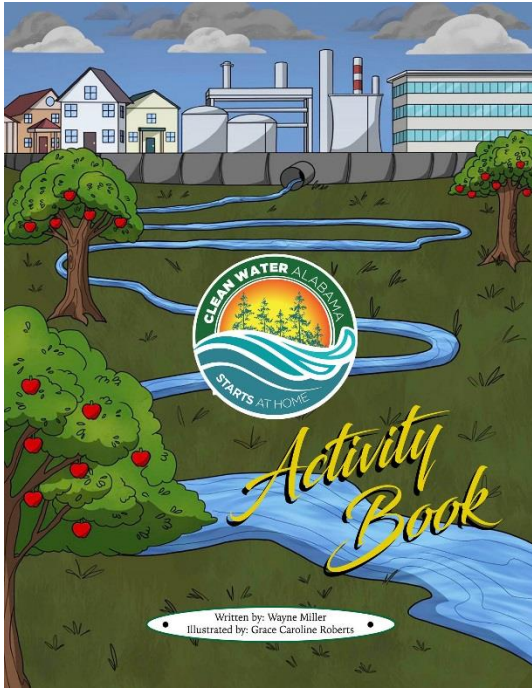
I've asked John Manelos to recap the ongoing projects we have been involved with this past year.

Ongoing projects

Clean Water Alabama will be meeting in January with the Baldwin County School



John Manelos, past President Clean Water Alabama

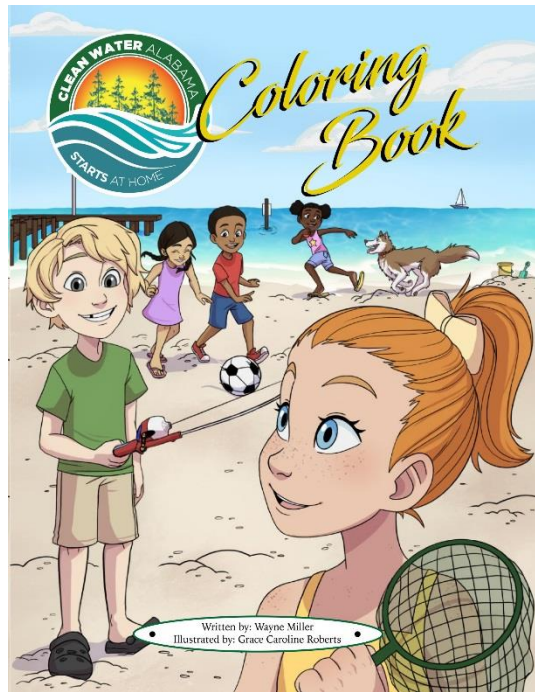


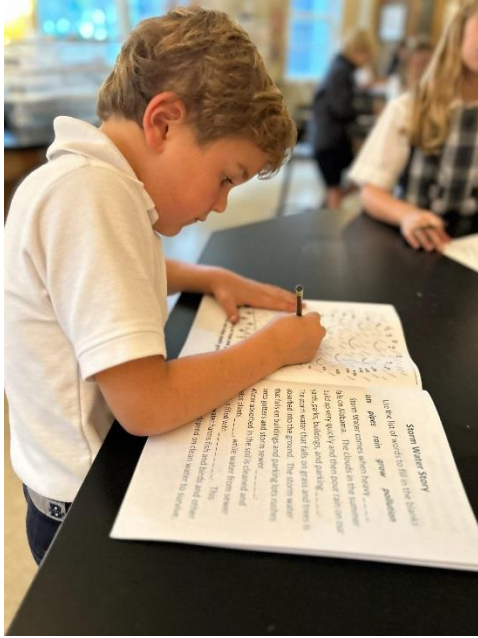
District to plan the introduction of our Coloring and Activity books (*along with lesson plans*) to their elementary grade students.



‘Coach’ Wayne Miller, creator of the Coloring and Activity books

We already have some of the activity books at area schools, including Bayside Academy and The Organic School. Here are some photos.





Placemats

The Fairhope Sunset Rotary club has partnered with CWA in creating placemats designed to educate children on being good stewards of our waterways. The plan is for these to be made available at no cost to Baldwin County restaurants. Mike Neeley is our liaison for that project



Mike Neeley of the Sunset Rotary Organization spearheading the placemats

Our Website

We are in the process of updating our website to include membership opportunities *and* a small catalog of products, such as T-shirts and caps will be available on the site. These updates should be ready by the first of the year.

Marketing/Social Media Report

One of the benefits of using the social media platform is that it leads an interested audience to our Website Landing page. This is where we promote Our Mission, share education objectives and provide valuable informational resources.

We are currently updating cleanwateralabama.com to reflect a more concise and modern platform.

Combined Posting on Instagram and Facebook targets a different audience age group. Our organization has started to focus on the more frequently accessed Instagram social media platform and the results have been significant.

The results for Instagram during the last three months are as follows: -

- Audience Reach – up 6.5K%
- Instagram Profile Visits – an increase of 192.1%
- Instagram New Followers – an increase of 239.1%

The results for Facebook during the last three months are as follows: -

- Audience Reach – up 340.2%
- Facebook Profile Visits – an increase of 385.3%
- Facebook New Likes – an increase of 155.8%



Belinda Meade, our Social Media expert

We will continue to promote our nonprofit organization and in accordance with Our Mission, remain non-partisan, educating Alabamians about Alabama’s water resources and promote other organizations that seek the same.

Other Events

Here’s a picture sent to us from the reenactment at Bay Minette. This is an unusual story, strange but true.

Luckily, we were represented there with a hat worn by Matt McKenzie, Baldwin County Commissioner.



Clean Water Alabama hat on the left

Bird Fest 2022

Held for the first time at 5 Rivers Delta Center in Spanish Fort, a good time was had by all.



First Friday

Thanks to Deborah Bruijn, owner of the Fairhope Soap Company, for helping us get the word out at Fairhope First Friday. She has also created a wonderful line of soaps for Clean Water Alabama and has generously donated proceeds to our cause. They make fantastic Holiday gifts.



John Manelos & Belinda Meade at First Friday



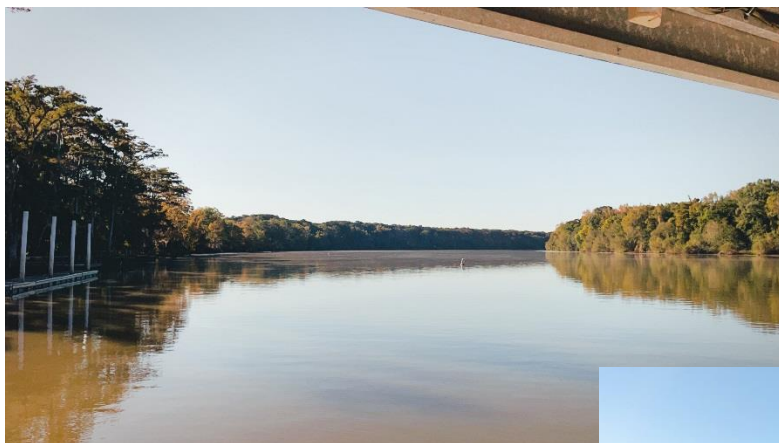
Deborah displaying the Clean Water Alabama inspired soaps

Bottle Creek River Trip

Organized by Rep. Joe Faust on behalf of Clean Water Alabama. About 30 people joined us on our trip to the Bottle Creek Indian Mounds. It was a lovely day, and everyone had a wonderful time. A little history from the net:

The Bottle Creek site is the second largest mound site in Alabama and it represents the remnants of a large Mississippian Stage civic ceremonial complex that dominated the Mobile-Tensaw Delta from AD 1250 to 1500. Located in the heart of the Delta, Bottle Creek included eighteen mounds, canals, and residential areas that covered much of the northern end of Mound Island. The people who built the Bottle Creek mounds left behind artifacts which show a clear connection to the massive mound complex of Moundville to the north and the people of the Lower Mississippi Valley to the west. The Mississippian culture is believed to have originated in the Mississippi Valley near the end of the first millennium AD (circa AD 850) and continued as the dominant culture of the Southeast at the time of European exploration and settlement (1511-1700). Based on origin traditions and archaeological evidence, it is believed that the Mississippians moved east and established major communities in the area of what became Alabama between AD 1100 and 1250. Bottle Creek was one of the largest communities built during this time.


We spent half a day exploring the natural beauty of our waterways and learning about the rich history of the area.





John Sledge Speaks

Clean Water Alabama held an event titled 'Our Treasured Mobile Bay.' We had a pretty good turnout, and John Sledge is an amazing Historian and speaker.



PRESENTS

OUR TREASURED MOBILE BAY



Engaging citizens,
business & government
to protect our waterways,
ensuring safe
Clean Water in Alabama.

CleanWaterAlabama.org
A 501(c)(3) non-profit.

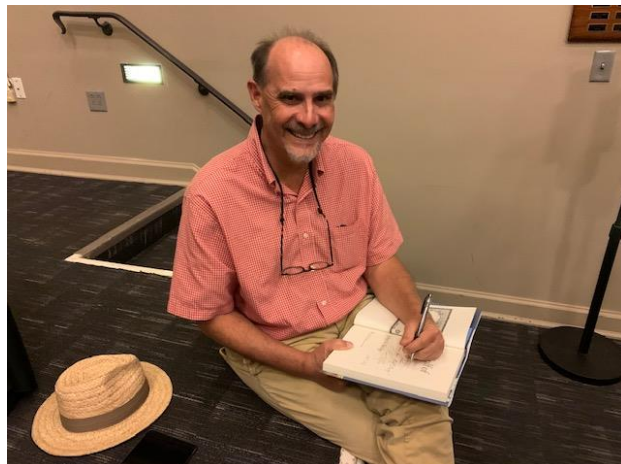
October 13th, 6:00pm

**Coastal Alabama College,
Fairhope Campus,
Giddens Auditorium
440 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope, Al.**

John Sledge, acclaimed author and historian,
will be the keynote speaker.
He is the Senior architectural historian
for the Mobile Historic Development
Commission and author of "The Mobile River"
and "The Gulf of Mexico, A Maritime History".

Panel discussion to follow.
All are invited & admission is free.



John Sledge



Best Practices Spotlight

The Dumpster Guys

Most of us have witnessed a concrete truck washing out its residue after a concrete pour. Unfortunately, this is usually done on an adjoining empty lot or worse, on the street curb where the liquids make their way into storm gutters. The liquid residue contains toxic materials which absorb into the ground or make their way to a gully or stream and ultimately into a larger waterway. The Dumpster Guys, a company based



in Orange Beach, Al. have developed a simple but effective process for capturing concrete washout liquids and solids. For a relatively low cost they deliver to a job



site a plastic bin that holds these materials during the washout process. Upon completion, they return with their specially designed truck and remove the liquids to a storage tank where the contents are neutralized and properly disposed of. The

remaining solids are processed and recycled. Our goal is that builders embrace this disposal method and that it becomes a regulated requirement.

How You Can Help

We are often asked how can I help?

First and foremost, you can visit our website and become a member. You'll get a beautiful sticker to display on your car. Our website contains a lot of information regarding all of the organizations that are involved with keeping our waterways and bay safe and clean.

You can also visit our Facebook page and like/share it with your friends to help us get the word out. And don't forget our Instagram page.

By working together, we can inform the public, promote best practices and help assure our waterways and bay will be safe for generations to come!

And...

I want to thank you for reading this newsletter and for your continued support of Clean Water Alabama.



Website: www.CleanWaterAlabama.com



Facebook: Clean Water Alabama



Instagram: Clean Water Alabama

In appreciation of the generous support of our Sponsors:



And the Fairhope Sunset Rotary Club