



Congaree Riverkeeper works to protect and improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreation on the Congaree, Lower Saluda and Lower Broad Rivers through advocacy, education and enforcement of environmental laws.

River Watch

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Earlier this month we conducted another round of water quality monitoring. All six of the urban stream sites we sampled had bacteria results above the state standard. [You can see the results on our website here.](#)

Last week the City of Cayce officially re-opened the Thomas H. Newman Boat Landing on the Congaree River. [You can read more in](#)

River Rocks is This Saturday

The 7th annual [River Rocks Festival](#) is this Saturday, April 1st. In addition to a great lineup of bands we will also be showing the USC Men's Final Four basketball game. The festival will feature several food vendors, beer from SweetWater Brewing Company, kids activities, and environmental education. In addition to all of that, we will also be premiering our short film [Confluence](#).

Here's the updated River Rocks schedule:

Noon- Gates Open
12:30 - [The Affectionates](#)
1:45 - [Dangermuffin](#)
3:00 - [Josh Roberts & The Hinges](#)
4:30 - [Zach Deputy](#)
6:00 - Final Four, Gamecocks vs Gonzaga

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the gate. You can get advance tickets [online](#) or at River Runner, Half-Moon Outfitters, and Papa Jazz Records.

Carolina Water Service Updates

[this story from South Carolina Public Radio.](#)

Mark your calendars... Midlands Gives will be on May 2nd this year. This 24 hour online giving day is a great way to support local non-profits. [Learn more here.](#)



There are a couple of important updates to share about Carolina Water Service, the private sewer company with a history of polluting the Lower Saluda River.

Earlier this month DHEC fined CWS almost \$80,000 dollars for violations at their Friarsgate wastewater plant that led to a no-swimming advisory at Saluda Shoals Park last summer. The DHEC consent order also required CWS to submit a corrective action plan and take several steps to fix the problems at their plant and improve their compliance monitoring. You can read more about the DHEC enforcement action in [this article from The State Newspaper.](#)

Congaree Riverkeeper will be in court tomorrow (Thursday, March 30th) defending DHEC's denial of the re-issuance of the NPDES permit for Carolina Water Service's I-20 wastewater plant. DHEC denied the permit in August of 2016, but CWS appealed the denial. The hearing will be at 10:00 am at the South Carolina Administrative Law Court in Columbia.

Visit our website at <http://www.congareeriverkeeper.org>.
Donate to our cause at <http://congareeriverkeeper.org/become-member>.