



SITE LEADER “DAY OF” CHECKLIST

-Check the weather and make any last-minute arrangements. Arrive 1 hour prior to your scheduled event start. Wear your Pearl Riverkeeper T-shirt. Bring list of registered volunteers, cleanup supplies and a first aid kit. Check for any hazards to communicate to your volunteers, such as slippery conditions, poison ivy, or “sharps”.

-Check in volunteers. Ask those who have not already registered to complete the on-line registration form and view/accept the attached Liability Waiver form.

-Give welcome and safety brief. Suggested talking points (Site Leaders at Water-Based Locations may have additional talking points):

You are part of something big! By volunteering as part of the 2018 Pearl River Clean Sweep, you are part of an epic volunteer effort to clean the entire Pearl River and its tributaries! Teams are located in over 30 locations from the Headwaters of the Pearl in Nanih Waiya south to the mouth of the Pearl on the Mississippi Sound.

The Pearl River is a special watershed. Not only does the Pearl River provide the drinking water for much of the state of Mississippi, it is also home to over 100 species of fish and 7 federally threatened species including the Gulf Sturgeon, Ringed Map Turtle and Heelsplitter Mussel. The fresh water flow from the Pearl River is vital to the health of the fragile estuaries on the Mississippi and Louisiana Gulf Coast and we are so proud that our cleanup is also a National Estuaries Week event. Estuaries provide vital habitat for fisheries and oyster hatcheries, act as a storm surge buffer and filter contaminants.

We all must do our part to protect it! Pearl Riverkeeper has organized this event as a reminder that it’s our job to take care of our Pearl River watershed and our estuaries on the Gulf Coast. To stay involved after this event, please visit www.PearlRiverkeeper.com to learn about current issues affecting the Pearl, sign up for volunteer opportunities, take action or make a donation.

Please stay safe! Your safety is of utmost importance. Please take responsibility for yourself and any children you have with you. Volunteers should wear sturdy closed-toe shoes, and take care to avoid hazards, such as slippery rocks, poison ivy, ticks, snakes and the potential for trash to include hazards, such as discarded needles. If you come upon an item that may be unsafe, don’t touch it! Leave it and report it to the site leader.

Please recycle as much as possible. The more recyclables we separate, the less trash goes to a landfill. A good way to recycle is to separate recyclables from trash as you pick it up. You can do this by pairing up, with one volunteer gathering recyclables and one gathering trash. Or, you can grab two bags and use one for recyclables and one for trash.

Please share your experience on social media. Use the hashtags #PearlRiverCleanSweep and/or #EstuariesWeek. Please tag @PearlRiverkeeper. Most Unusual Item Photo and Best Overall Cleanup Photo will win prizes!

After-Party Details (Site-specific)

Thank you!! Let’s go clean some river!!

-Share your results with Pearl Riverkeeper. Please report your total number of volunteers and the number of bags and/or tonnage of trash removed. Let us know of any unusual items collected. Join your volunteers at a local After-Party.