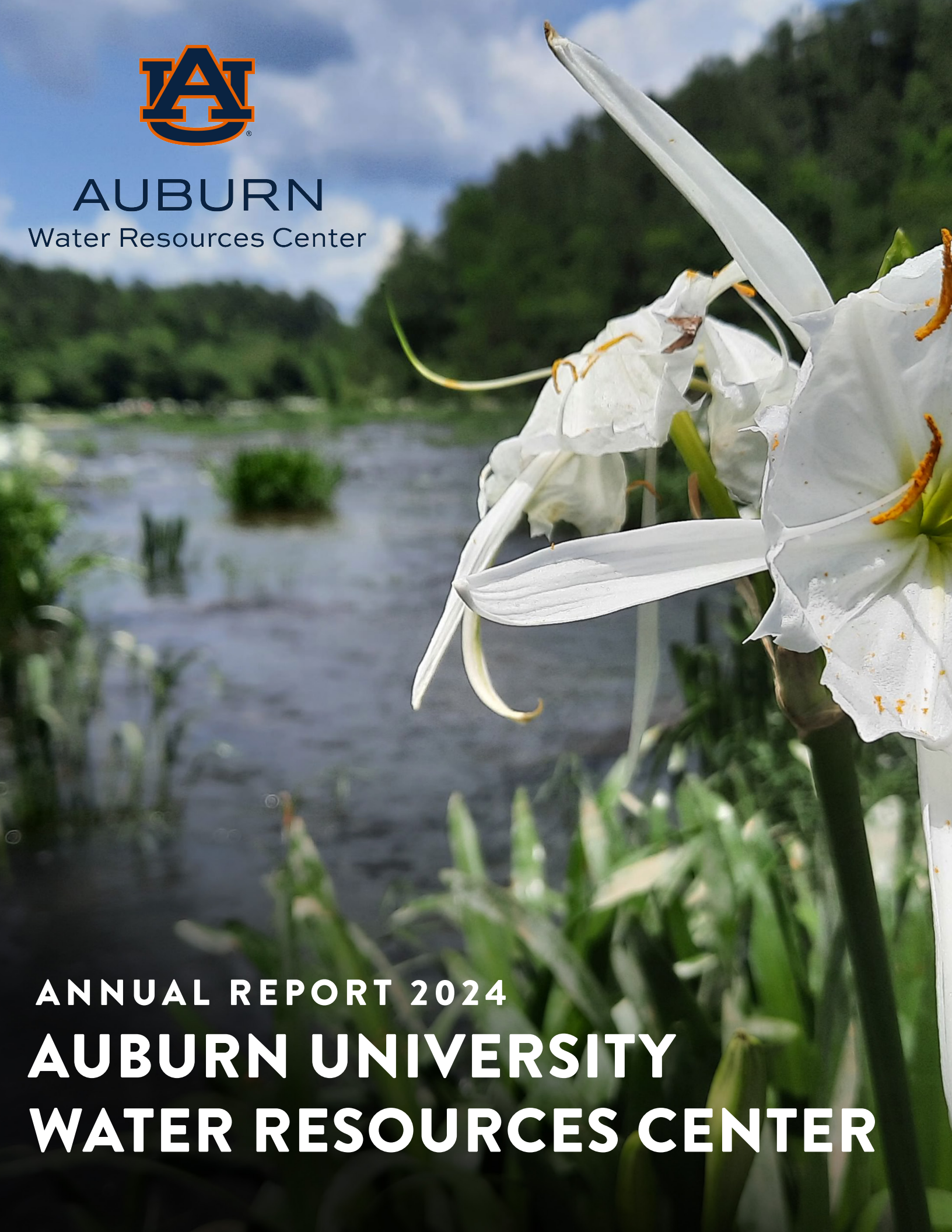


AUBURN
Water Resources Center

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

AUBURN UNIVERSITY WATER RESOURCES CENTER

Message from the Director

This past year brought about many changes to the WRC. Former Director, Dr. Eve Brantley was selected as Associate Director of the AL Cooperative Extension System. Eve was a transformative and inspirational force who left an indelible mark on the Center during her four years as Director. She helped us scale-up already thriving programs, and led the creation of many new initiatives and collaborations. As a result, we are a more well-rounded and effective team. We look forward to welcoming a new WRC Director in 2025, along with the unique perspective, knowledge, and innovation they will bring to our Center. It has been my pleasure to lead this team and serve the AU water resources community during this transitional time.

One thing that has not changed here at the WRC is our team's passion for supporting invaluable water resources research, extension, and education. Thank you for taking a moment to read our year in review.

Mona Dominguez
Acting Director, AUWRC

To achieve its mission, vision, and objectives, the Auburn University Water Resources Center consists of interdisciplinary teams of research, teaching, and Extension faculty and staff who address all types of water-related issues in Alabama, the Southeast, and around the globe. Our programs are funded in part by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, the USGS Water Resources Research Institute, and a wide variety of extramural sources.

Acronyms used in this report:

AWW = Alabama Water Watch
APWP = Alabama Private Well Program
ADR = Alabama Drought Reach
GWW = Global Water Watch
AUWRC = Auburn University Water Resources Center
WRRI = Water Resources Research Institute
RMS = Risk Management & Safety

Executive Summary

The Auburn University Water Resources Center (AUWRC) is a premier institution at Auburn University. Our team of 8 is dedicated to improving water resources in Alabama through hard work, creativity, and diligence. 2024 highlights include hosting one of the largest water resources conferences in the southeast, securing external funding, facilitating 8 programs, 5 special projects, and hosting numerous in-person outreach and technical training events that reached over 1,000 people.

Research + Funding

- Awarded $104,765 in USGS WRRI Funding to 3 AU Faculty.
- Collaborated on 5 AU research projects.

Extension

- Staff led 8 (statewide and international) education and outreach programs.
- Hosted a record 370 participants at the Alabama Water Resources Conference & Symposium.
- Facilitated numerous professional development opportunities including the Spring & Fall Research Socials, Extension & Education Workshops, and non-programmatic outreach events.
- Distributed ALWRC Newsletters to 1,817 subscribers, AUWRC Quarterly Newsletters to 785 subscribers, "The Current" Faculty Newsletters to 492 subscribers, Funding Opportunities Newsletters to 182 subscribers, and program-specific newsletters.
- Staff featured on 4 media outlets (podcasts & live radio).

Instruction & Scholarship

- Published two Extension Peer Reviewed Publications.
- Extension & AUWRC Blog Articles: 38 (Alabama Water Watch), 10 (AUWRC).
- Hosted 4 field-based educational experiences for Auburn University classes.
- Mentored future generations through supervising one student intern and one student worker.
- Delivered 6 presentations at professional conferences.
- Presented during two national webinars hosted by EPA and CUASHI.

Connecting science to people, and people to science.

$104,765

Funding Awarded by AUWRC

370

Attendees at the Alabama Water Resources Conference

3,276

Newsletter Subscribers

The Auburn University Water Resources Center

In 2008, the U.S. EPA designated Auburn University as a Center of Excellence for Watershed Management, enhancing Auburn's efforts to address water quality and availability issues in Alabama and the region.

Mission

1. Facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration among Auburn University faculty, staff, and students on water-related research, extension, outreach, and instruction.

2. Conduct innovative research to find practical solutions for current and future water challenges.

3. Empower private citizens to become active stewards of water resources.

Vision

Coordinate funding for USGS Water Resources Research Institute to support interdisciplinary, problem-oriented research on present and emerging problems.

Develop and implement Extension programs that increase knowledge of water resources, transfer skills to improve water resources, and inspire action for better planning, management, and protection of water resources.

Connect Auburn University research, Extension, and teaching community with each other and local, state, regional, and national collaborators.

The Team

Mona Dominguez
Acting Director, AUWRC
Director, AWW

Sergio RuizCordova
Data Coordinator, AWW
Associate Director, GWW

Sydney Zinner
Volunteer Coordinator, AWW

Carolina Ruiz
Logistics & Operations Coordinator

Jessie Curl
AUWRC Outreach & AL Private Well Program Coordinator

Laura Cooley
Project Manager, Sustainable Waters & Communities

Adam Newby
Water Resources Research Associate

Bree Minton
Drought Outreach Program Coordinator

RESEARCH

USGS Water Resources Research Institute

The AUWRC is the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) for Alabama, federally authorized under the Water Resources Research Act (WRRA). The Alabama Water Resources Research Institute & USGS award grants annually to Alabama-based PI's through the USGS WRRA 104(b) Annual Base Grants Program. The goal of the AWRRI is to support research and training that is responsive to the identified priority problems of our state and region, with a focus on research projects that have a high probability of producing useful results and/or obtaining additional external funding. Three projects were funded by the Alabama WRRI through the FY 24 WRRA 104(b) Annual Base Grants from USGS.

Is Cover Crop a Threat to Water Quality in Alabama? Challenges and Opportunities. Debolina Chakraborty, AU Department of Biosystems Engineering, College of Agriculture, $35,000.

Assessing the Capacity of Local Officials in Alabama to Plan for Climate-Resilient Water Infrastructure and Management. Megan Heim-LaFrombois, AU Department of Political Science, College of Liberal Arts. $35,000.

Rates of Private Well Use and Cardiovascular Disease Mortality in Alabama. Matthew Shane Loop, AU Department of Health Outcomes Research & Policy, Harrison College of Pharmacy & Ann S. Ojeda, AU Department of Geosciences, College of Sciences and Mathematics. $34,765.

New & Ongoing Research Collaborations

Laurel Dunn, UGA. Managing Water Well: Enhancing Water Quality to Foster Food Entrepreneurship and Farm Food Safety. USDA-NIFA, 2024-27, $495,000.00 ($50,000 AU Subaward to Camila Rodrigues and Jessie Curl).

Eve Brantley & Laura Cooley, Moore's Mill Creek Watershed Management Plan Update, 2024-2025, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, $193,921.

Katelyn Lawson, David Werneke, (AU Natural History Museum), Eve Brantley, Mona Dominguez & Sergio RuizCórdova, Technical assistance for stream monitoring and assessment in the PL566 Middle Tennessee Irrigation Project area, USDA NRCS, 2024-2028, $249,492.

Eve Brantley, Jessie Curl, Adam Newby (AU) & Lee Ellenburg (UAH), Environmental Evaluation and Watershed Assessment for Irrigation Expansion and Resource Conservation in Alabama, 2023-2028, USDA-NRCS, $1,639,696.

Virginia Davis, Eve Brantley, Mary Lou Ewald, Becky Barlow, Jessica Gilpin, & Mona Dominguez, Project FARM (Fostering Agricultural Research and Mentoring), USDA-NIFA, 2024-2027, $500,000.

Annual Alabama Water Resources Conference & Symposium

The Alabama Water Resources Conference (ALWRC) is the premier event for water resource professionals in Alabama and one of the most heavily attended and diverse forums for water resources in Alabama, drawing participants from across the Southeast. The ALWRC provides a forum for presenters from various fields to share their water-related research and professional experiences. The AUWRC facilitates and plans the event with a multi-agency committee (30 representatives from across the state) and the Alabama Chapter of the American Water Resources Association.

2024 Highlights

- Record–breaking attendance of 370 participants, with registration reaching its maximum capacity.
- Conference keynote speakers included Mark Masters, executive director of the Georgia Water Planning and Policy Center at Albany State University; and Rebecca Bearden, aquatic ecologist for the Geological Survey of Alabama's Ecosystems Investigations Program.
- AWRA-AL Symposium that focused on the intricacies of hydrologic connectivity & included presentations and a panel discussion with Nate Jones of the University of Alabama, Mitch Reid of the Nature Conservancy in Alabama, Rachel DuBose of the U.S. Geological Survey and Sam Blumenfeld of the Westervelt Company.
- Networking opportunities included a seafood dinner, a job fair, and poster session, and a social.
- 30 Conference sessions focused on a broad range of topics including stormwater, restoration, water quality, outreach, drought and climate, coastal issues, aquatic ecology and harmful algal blooms.
- 50 poster presentations from students and water resource professionals.
- News feature in the October 1, 2024 edition of Auburn News.

2024 Student Award Winners

Oral Presentations
1st Place – Megan Armstrong, Auburn University
2nd Place Tie – Jillian Sower, Auburn University
2nd Place Tie – Parnian Ghaneei, The University of Alabama
3rd Place – Ashley Hennessey, Auburn University

Poster Presenters
1st Place – Shruthi Koneti, Auburn University
2nd Place – Brianna Janssen, The University of South Alabama
3rd Place – Will Rich, Auburn University

Lightning Talks
Winner – Emily Ward, Auburn University

EXTENSION

The AUWRC has strong, well-recognized Extension programs that demonstrate management practices to enhance the development and implementation of effective watershed education, monitoring, planning, and improvement (e.g., water quality, watershed health education, domestic well water). Efforts include training in water and watershed management using demonstrations and stakeholder meetings at the watershed level, incorporating management practices into landowner education programs, and facilitating volunteer water monitoring workshops. The AUWRC Serves on the Aquatic Resources, Agronomic Crops, 4-H, Commercial Horticulture, and Forestry,Wildlife, and Natural Resources Extension Priority Program Teams (PPTs).

Alabama Water Watch

Alabama Water Watch (AWW) celebrated 32 years as a statewide volunteer water quality monitoring program in 2024. Core parts of the AWW Program, such as providing citizens with science-based education and training, technical backstopping, and quality volunteer support remain strong and steady. AWW promoted its success and encouraged participation by publishing monthly email newsletters, AWWareness Blog articles (38 total), and numerous social media posts. They also published articles in the ACES Backyard to the Back 40 Newsletter, and the ACES website. AWW shared program updates and recognized outstanding volunteers and collaborators during the AWW Annual Meeting that took place at The Kreher Nature Preserve in 2024. The event was attended by over fifty participants from around the state.

2024 Highlights

- 250+ monitors certified.
- 4,000 water data records collected by 240 monitors at 445 sites on 223 waterbodies.
- Total records in the AWW database surpassed 115,000.
- Distributed $15,000 of monitoring materials with the support the Turner Foundation and MBNEP.

4-H Alabama Water Watch

4-H Alabama Water Watch (4-H AWW) is the statewide youth water quality monitoring program created through a partnership between Alabama Water Watch and Alabama 4-H, the youth development program of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES). 4-H AWW increases environmental literacy by building capacity in volunteer trainer and educators to provide youth with awareness and understanding of watershed issues and tools that cultivate the critical thinking skills students need to identify and solve problems related to water quality.

2024 Highlights

- On average, about 40% of all participants in AWW trainings in 2024 were educators.
- Over 5,419 youth reached.
- 94 water data records from 26 sampling sites.
- 14 Active Monitoring 4-H AWW groups.

AU Risk Management & Safety Stormwater Management

The AWW-RMS project, launched in February 2021, aims to maintain a specialized *E. coli* monitoring program on Auburn University's main campus. Monthly tests at 13 key locations help establish a long-term water quality baseline, ensuring the water flowing through campus is safe for the ecosystem, students, and the public. In addition to routine testing, the project conducts targeted, on-demand testing at problematic sites, aiding in the detection of discharge issues and supporting land use strategies. This partnership contributes to improvements in stormwater management, water quality, infrastructure, and illicit discharge detection within the Parkerson Mill Creek watershed, a 303d-listed area for pathogens.

Global Water Watch

Global Water Watch (GWW) fosters and supports community-based, science-based watershed stewardship (CBWS) through the advancement of long-term water monitoring of surface waters for the improvement of both water quality and public health in locations beyond Alabama. All GWW travel is supported with external and personal funds, as it was in a May 2024 trip to Peru and a October 2024 trip to Chile when GWW Director made visits to conduct certifications in biomonitoring, bacteriological monitoring, and water chemistry monitoring. Water monitoring activity continues to increase, as scores of citizens keep collecting and submitting water-monitoring data.

NOAA Bays and Watershed Education Training Program (B-WET)

The goal of this project is to improve, expand, and sustain the ability of educators in Alabama and other Gulf of Mexico states to provide students with Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) focused on understanding, detecting, and mitigating pathogen pollution in local waters.

2024 Highlights

- Reached 698 middle school and high school students at 10 schools across the state.
- Conducted high quality professional development for 20 educators.
- Distributed more than $3,400 worth of monitoring materials to participating schools.
- 54 bacteria records submitted by 12 schools.

USDA-USFS: Developing a Citizen Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program in Alabama's National Forests

In 2024, AWW concluded their 5-year partnership project with USFS that aimed to create a network of AWW volunteer water monitors on National Forests of Alabama (NFAL) to increase water quality data and public participation in a way that fulfills the USFS mission.

AWW and USFS accomplished this by certifying local community members as AWW monitors and providing volunteer monitors with supplies, technical backstopping, and data management for the duration of the project and beyond. Inclusion of local 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Wild Alabama, greatly enhanced the final project phase. AWW assisted USFS as needed with analysis and application of AWW data for NFAL management.

Cumulative Project Summary:

- 197 new volunteers certified in bacteriological and water chemistry monitoring.
- 3,162 volunteer hours valued at nearly $100,000.
- 598 data records collected on 4 NFALs.
- Wild Alabama staff certified as AWW trainer.
- An average of 12 active monitors per project year.
- 11 training sessions held in NFALs.
- Project StoryMap created to showcase citizen science work in National Forests.
- Inclusion of project as Case Study for the Interagency Citizen Science Toolkit modules.
- AWW data included in USFS Biennial Monitoring & Evaluation Report.

Alabama Private Well Program

The Alabama Private Well Program (APWP) was established in 2020 and has since become a highly valued and referenced resource to both ACES clients and staff across the state. This program increases access to private well educational materials to empower, engage, and equip well users with the resources needed to protect their water systems. The core values of the program are to deliver meaningful information to homeowners with private wells, educate well owners on the importance of proper well stewardship, and serve as a resource for well owners and Extension personnel to obtain answers and information about small-water systems.

2024 Highlights

- Hosted 3 signature well water workshops across the state.
- Offered complementary bacteria screening in partnership with Dr. Camila Rodrigues and Dr. Ann Ojeda.
- Hosted training for West Central CECs, 4-H Youth Development Coordinators, and REAs.
- Attended Russell County Farmers Market to provide water resources center and APWP resources to the public.
- Collaborated on 10 virtual meetings with neighboring Extension Well Water Networks to develop new resources for water consumers in the Black Belt Region of the Southeast USA.
- Partnered with the Live Well Alabama Program to produce a new ACES Peer Reviewed Publication “Clean Water, Healthy Habits” (ANR-3099).
- Expanded Well Water “FAQs” available on the AUWRC Website.
- Published Aware Dashboard on the ACES Webpage in partnership with Dr. Ann Ojeda.

Sustainable Irrigation Initiative

The AUWRC partners with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, and University of Alabama in Huntsville to prepare watershed plans that inform the sustainable expansion of irrigation in selected watersheds. Two Watershed Plan - Environmental Assessments have been authorized as of January 2023, and a Programmatic Plan for the Middle AL River Basin is currently in review as of October 2024. Funds have been dispersed for irrigation expansion in the Middle Tennessee River Valley and the Choctawhatchee - Pea Watersheds. A Draft Plan is nearing completion for the Pickwick Lake Watershed.

Alabama Drought Reach

The mission of Alabama Drought Reach (ADR) is to improve drought communication and drought agricultural impact monitoring in Alabama through a collaborative partnership between the Auburn University Water Resources Center, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, and the Alabama Office of the State Climatologist. The vision of the program is to better document drought’s agricultural impacts in Alabama, resulting in a more informed scientific and agricultural community. The objectives of ADR are to: Develop a systematic approach and monitoring program for drought agricultural impact data collection by Extension and Experiment Station personnel; Develop and conduct drought training for Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station personnel; Work alongside the Office of the State Climatologist to provide timely and relevant agricultural impact data; and increase drought impact literacy among Alabama farmers, landowners, and the general public.

2024 Highlights

- 2 podcasts with Alabama Extension and Alabama Farmers Federation.
- 40 Drought Reports and 40 Crop Impact Reports published; 6 articles developed for the ACES webpage.
- Hosted 7 presentations with ACES SET Regions and 15 drought webinars.
- 15 Drought Update newsletters published.
- Partnered with the Alabama Office of the State Climatologist at the University of Alabama in Huntsville to write a NOAA NIDIS assessment of the 2023 Southeast Drought.

Moore's Mill Creek Watershed Planning Project

The Auburn University Water Resources Center and the Auburn University (AU) Department of Civil Engineering are working with various local and regional partners in the Auburn-Opelika area to make improvements in land use around the stream that could ultimately help improve water quality. The project, which started in late 2023 and runs until 2025, is funded in part by a Clean Water Act 319(h) grant from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management Nonpoint Source Unit. In addition to updating the watershed plan, the AU team and the Friends of Moores Mill Creek will conduct education and outreach initiatives to engage the community in understanding the local waterways and learning how to prevent pollution. The AU Civil Engineering team is also developing a Storm Water Management Model (SWMM) using water data from the watershed to predict how changes to land use in the future will impact stormwater's flow and volume. The SWMM can then help predict which stormwater best management practices can work well, and where to place them to have the most impact. The model will help guide where future water quality funding can be best used.

2024 Highlights

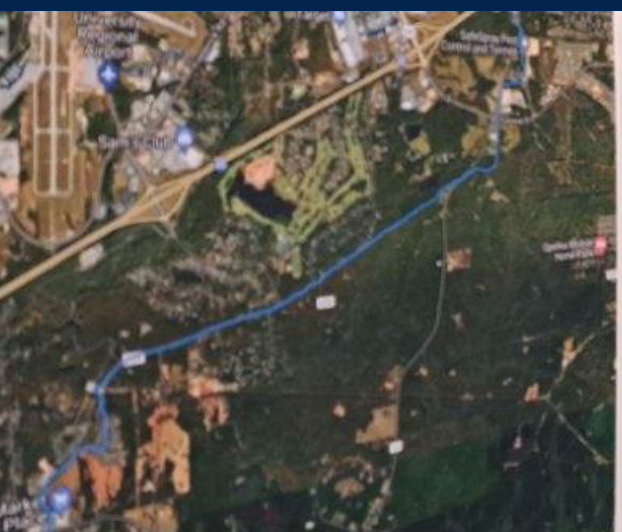
- Hosted 2 public meetings to gather stakeholder feedback.
- Developing two Peer-Reviewed Extension articles for homeowners living on creeks.
- Presented at 2 Regional Conferences about the project.
- Developed extensive stakeholder list and began outreach training efforts.
- Initiatied the re-writing of a watershed plan for Moores Mill Creek
- Began collecting hydrological data with project partners for SWMM model development.

Alabama Watershed Stewards

Alabama Watershed Stewards (AWS) is a statewide science-based educational program that promotes healthy watersheds, increases understanding of water pollution, and provides the knowledge and tools needed to prevent and resolve local water quality problems. The goal of the AWS program is to increase citizen awareness and knowledge about the function of watersheds, their potential impairments, and local watershed protection strategies. The program also provides practical information about local watersheds, opportunities to connect with local community groups, and presents engaging tools for encouraging individuals to take leadership roles in improving their local water quality.

2024 Highlights

- Hosted technical training events on green infrastructure design and planning.
- Hosted 1 watershed planning workshop.
- Partnered on 3 litter removal initiatives.
- Facilitated 1 storm drain pollution marking event.
- Developed educational resources for the Alabama Extension Page (1 Extension peer-reviewed article, 3 media articles, and 1 Extension content piece).
- Presented at the International Erosion Control Association Meeting
- Hosted online course on Alabama Watershed Stewards available to the public year around (99 students currently enrolled)



INSTRUCTION

Student Field Experiences

Since 2018, the AUWRC has offered field-based experiences for Auburn University classes. The AUWRC recognizes the importance of experiential learning and seeks to supplement traditional classroom education through outdoor experiences related to student coursework. Faculty from several different departments have participated in the program, including Hydrologic Analysis & Modeling and Urban Hydraulics Design with the College of Engineering, Introduction to Sustainability with the College of Liberal Arts, American Society of Civil Engineers, Natural Resources Field Methods with the College of Forestry and Wildlife, and Live Green Stay Green with the First Year Experience Office. The AUWRC led 5 Field Experiences in 2024.

Low Impact Development StoryMap

In 2024, AUWRC/ACES intern Emily Ward led the development of an ArcGIS StoryMap, a tool that combines GIS data with information to create an interactive narrative. This project was a collaboration between AUWRC and Auburn University Facilities Management, aimed at increasing awareness about stormwater and Auburn University's efforts to manage it effectively. Emily accompanied AUWRC staff members Laura and Adam on multiple site visits to learn more about the Low Impact Development (LID) practices and capture updated photographs. After reviewing the LID handbook published by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, and Auburn University, as well as leveraging Laura's extensive knowledge of stormwater practices and LID, Emily integrated the information into the StoryMap. Titled "Making Stormwater Visible: Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure Projects on Auburn University's Campus," the StoryMap will be published for public use following review by the AU Stormwater Committee. The project required a solid understanding of LID principles to translate complex practices into accessible information, aligning with Extension's mission to provide community education.

To view the StoryMap, scan the QR code or visit aub.ie/makingtormwatervisible

PARTNERSHIPS

AUWRC Partners

The AUWRC collaborates with a wide range of partners, including governmental agencies, academic institutions, nonprofits, and federal organizations, to advance water resources education and outreach across Alabama. These partnerships are critical in promoting water stewardship and ensuring that water remains a priority in statewide discussions. By leveraging the expertise and resources of these diverse groups, AUWRC is able to provide impactful educational programs and community initiatives. We are deeply grateful for these collaborations, which help safeguard Alabama's water resources and contribute to sustainable water management practices.

In 2024, the AUWRC partnered with the groups on projects or events, including:

Alabama Stormwater Association
Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alabama Soil & Water Conservation Committee
American Water Resources Association
Alabama State Climate Office
City of Opelika
Alabama League of Municipalities
Alabama Scenic River Trail
Alabama Rivers Alliance
Auburn Rotary Club
Alabama Cattlemans Association
Kreher Preserve & Nature Center
AU Museum of Natural History
Wild Alabama
AU Office of Sustainability
USDA-NRCS
City of Auburn
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Weather Service

2024 Partnership Spotlight: BraveHeart Center for Place and Purpose (BCPP)

BCPP is a program for young adults with moderate to severe disabilities that fosters safety, belonging, and purpose. The AUWRC supports BCPP by integrating watershed stewardship into their activities through education, outreach, and art.

BCPP participants have engaged in stream clean-ups on Auburn's campus, making one of the most attended events. They also contribute by assembling materials for AWW and serving as event photographers at the AWW Annual Meeting. Their photography work, known as "photo voice," uses visual storytelling to raise disability awareness.

This meaningful partnership deeply enriches both organizations. BraveHeart participants gain valuable job skills and outreach experience, while the AUWRC has the opportunity to broaden citizen science participation in a more inclusive and accessible way. We are truly grateful for the shared growth, connection, and the impactful work we accomplish together.

COMMUNICATIONS SPOTLIGHT

AUWRC Website

The AUWRC website serves as a central hub for resources and stakeholder access to information about the Center. It features dedicated pages for each of the AUWRC's core mission areas—Research, Extension, and Instruction—where specialized content is readily accessible. The site also hosts a variety of resources, including blogs, research spotlight videos, information on Auburn University's water-related degrees and courses, and a section highlighting AUWRC Affiliated Faculty.

Quarterly Newsletters

The AUWRC releases a quarterly, digital newsletter to the AU Water Network and external stakeholders and partners. In 2024, 3 newsletters have been published that included student features, faculty/staff blog features, and several specialty blog articles written by AUWRC staff.

- Spring – March 2024 to 693 subscribers
- Summer – July 2024 to 704 subscribers
- Fall – September 2024 to 712 subscribers
- Winter – To be sent December 2024

Affiliate Newsletter *"The Current"*

AU Water Affiliates are also included on an email listing for special, periodic email announcements from the AUWRC regarding relevant on and off-campus seminars, webinars, RFPs, conferences, graduate student, and professional development and employment opportunities. 20 Water Alerts were sent in 2024, with more to come through the end of the year.

Funding Opportunities Newsletter

Newsletter subscribers received a monthly email curated by AUWRC staff for water resources and adjacent academic fields. 12 funding emails were sent to an audience of 163 recipients in 2024.

Media Engagement

- 617 Instagram Followers
- 350 Facebook Followers
- 3,270 Newsletter Subscribers
- New LinkedIn Page

Collaboration with AU Department of Theater & Dance

In September of 2024 the AUWRC was invited to partner with the AU Department of Theater & Dance for their showing of "Wellesley Girl", a show that explores the resilience of a Massachusetts community facing dire water quality issues. The AUWRC provided a dramaturgical display for the patrons of the performance which contained helpful resources and information about harmful algal blooms, citizen science water quality monitoring, and drinking water safety. An estimated 820 attendees viewed the show and associated AUWRC materials.

LOOKING AHEAD

2025 & Beyond

- Completion of the Moore's Mill Watershed Management Plan.
- Continuation of Live Well Alabama Partnership for Drinking Water Consumers.
- Collaboration with UGA Extension to develop Water Safety Curriculum for producers.
- Partnership with the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech Extension to provide resources for HeadStart Programs.
- New projects with the BraveHeart Center for Place and Purpose.
- Expansion of Septic Safety resources.
- 2025 Water Research Socials.
- Launch of the Alabama Private Well Program Newsletter.
- Expanded Well Water Quality testing initiatives.
- Connecting at ACES Regional Meetings.
- Introduction Meetings Across Campus.
- Completion of NOAA B-WET Project.
- Improved reruitment and retention strategies for AWW monitors.
- Launch of APWP Facebook Page.
- Expanding and maintaining the monitor assistant project for AWW.
- Collaboration with STEM educators through the FARM Project.
- At least two funding opportunities are pending and more are under development.
- Completion of Middle Alabama and Pickwick-Bear Watershed Plans.
- Facilitation of annual AL Water Resources Conference.
- Supporting new ACES Aquatics Regional Extension Agents.
- Hosting webinars and in-person events for AU faculty, staff, and funding agencies.

2024 IN PHOTOS

AUBURN

@auburnwater

aaes.auburn.edu/wrc

Prepared on November 8, 2024 by Jessica N. Curl

The College of Agriculture and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station confirm their commitment to affirmative action and equal opportunity employment as priorities of the college and station. Our commitment to non-discrimination applies to all aspects of research and outreach programs and activities and employment actions within the organizations.

Front & back cover images provided by Gabrielle Dunham, 2023