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# New, exciting adventures along the Chattahoochee in Coweta and Columbus

EDITORIAL

The Chattahoochee River is one of Georgia's most important assets. This major body of water which meanders 430 miles through our state, from north of Helen into Florida, is one of our most used natural resources.

Millions drink water from the river, and millions enjoy recreation and leisure activities on the river or alongside the river banks. The stretch of the Chattahoochee in north Georgia from Helen to Atlanta has long been one of the most used parts of the river and has received publicity because of the ongoing water wars between Georgia, Alabama and Florida on use of the Chattahoochee.

But the stretch below Atlanta, which passes through Coweta County on to West Point Lake to Columbus and into Florida has been equally important and equally used for centuries.

If you updated what's happening on the Chattahoochee River today, two recreational projects are making the river even more attractive to local folks and to visitors.

One of those projects is the new Chattahoochee Bend State Park, which runs along the river banks in the western park of Coweta. This park, Georgia's newest state park, is truly a community gem. It seems each month more projects and activities associated with Chattahoochee Bend are being developed. We urge readers to find out more by visiting this website, [www.gastateparks.org/chattahoocheebend](http://www.gastateparks.org/chattahoocheebend), or call 770-254-7271.

Many Cowetans and visitors have already discovered Chattahoochee Bend, but with spring just around the corner, it's a great time for others to explore the park.

Downstream from Chattahoochee Bend, past West Point Lake at Columbus, another exciting endeavor on the Chattahoochee soon will open.

After more than a decade of planning and construction, a man-made whitewater course on the Chattahoochee in downtown Columbus will open on May 25. The course was created by breaching downtown Columbus dams on the Chattahoochee. In Columbus the Chattahoochee forms the Alabama-Georgia state line and separates the downtown areas of Columbus and Phenix City, Ala.

The whitewater course is along a portion of the popular 15-mile Riverwalk that stretches from Columbus south to the Fort Benning area.

The continuing development of Chattahoochee Bend State Park in our community and the opening of the whitewater course on the Chattahoochee in Columbus add new and exciting adventures for the millions of people who utilize the Chattahoochee each year.

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