



Newsline

Upper Chattahoochee Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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June 2005

Callaway Gardens: Last Call

By Kevin McGrath (kevinmcgrath@mindspring.com)

If you are interested in joining the Chapter trip to fish Callaway Gardens for a half day on the morning of Saturday morning, July 9th, please contact Kevin McGrath ASAP at (h) 770-587-1621 or (o) 404-760-3145 or kevinmcgrath@mindspring.com. Callaway is one of the premier warm-water fisheries in the Southeast with great fishing for both bream and bass. The club trip rate is \$39 each for multiples groups of five anglers. Kevin currently has 14 members signed up and can only take one more. Also, if you have signed up, please let Kevin know if you are interested in fishing the afternoon before as several members have indicated an interest in fishing both Friday evening and Saturday morning. ❖

Next Meeting – June 28

John Biaggi & Chris Martin, Georgia DNR

“Population Growth and the Projected Impact on the Chattahoochee River”

Who is Most Fortunate?

By Mack Martin (mack@mackmartin.com)

The 2005 Georgia Camp was concluded on Friday the 17th and 24 young men and women graduated after six days of classes on fly casting, fly & knot tying, entomology, cold water conservation & preservation and trip planning. They did work on stream structures and worked with the US Forest Service on shocking and fish counting. But what they liked most were the endless hours of trout fishing with some of the best trout fishermen in Georgia. After it was all over, both campers and mentors wonder who was the most fortunate for the opportunity to participate in the Trout Camp.

The campers learned all about the mission of Trout Unlimited, how to fly fish and made friends with many current and hopefully future TU members. They all seemed to enjoy the camaraderie with their fellow campers and the excitement of catching their first trout. They took with them the knowledge of a wonderful sport and information on how they can help protect and conserve some of our natural resources in the future.

The mentors shared their knowledge of fly fishing and the importance and need for conservation of our cold water fisheries. They also saw how their expertise was passed on and put in practice immediately. As the week concluded the campers received their Certificate of Achievement and anxiously began telling their parents the numerous stories of their activities that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Perhaps it is fair to say that both the campers and the mentors shared a wonderful experience that they both want to repeat again. The mentors will have that opportunity but not the campers. Take a look at the camp photos on pages 7-9 and consider being a part of this unique experience next year! ❖

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Spring Work Day Report



UCCTU members gathered on May 21 with volunteers from the Cohutta and Chattahoochee-Nantahala chapters for the annual spring work day, this year on Pretty Branch. The creek is a small brook trout habitat, a tributary to Cooper Creek, a popular stream, northwest of Suches, Georgia.

Over 20 workers arrived for a morning of back-bending work refurbishing and building stream structures. On hand were U.S. Forest Service representatives, Biologist Jim Wentworth, Jerry Wood and Gordon Riddoch, to direct the team's efforts.

The group made major improvements on over 200 yards of streambed that involved moving large diameter logs up to 18 feet in length. Once in place, structures to direct stream flow and provide fish cover, were filled with rocks and tree branches and covered with sturdy wire to ensure their durability.

After quittin' time, the crowd journeyed to the banks of the Toccoa River off the road to the Rock Creek Hatchery where UCCTU's Carl Riggs had, as in years past, sponsored the use of his development's pavilion. A welcome meal organized by Glenn Lee with Bob Wathen, Carol Berger and Pat Foster awaited the tired and slightly (slightly?) grubby volunteers. ❖



www.unicoioutfitters.com

Updated Web Sites

If you have not already done so, check out the updated TU National web site at www.tu.org. You will need your membership number to log in.

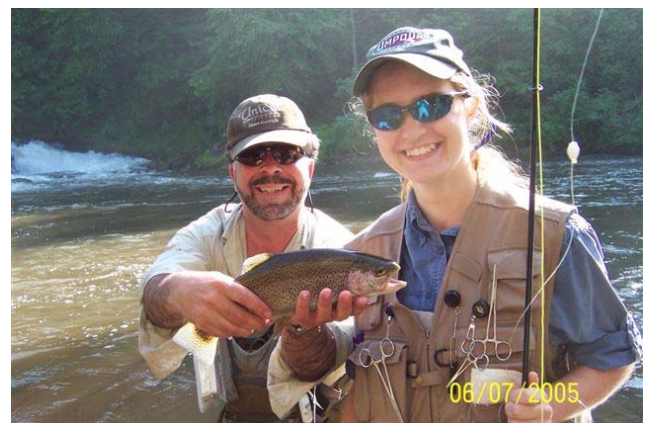
Another updated web site to check out is for the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper at www.chattahoochee.org. The Riverkeeper site provides updated information on a variety of activities and issues of interest to our chapter. ❖



Special Rod Raffle in June

By Mack Martin (mack@mackmartin.com)

If sufficient tickets have been sold by the June chapter meeting, the Upper Chattahoochee Chapter will raffle a custom built Sage TXL, 3 weight, 7 ft., three piece rod donated by North Georgia Custom Rods and made with top of the line components including the new REC nickel titanium recoil snake guides and Struble nickel silver reel seat. This rod would sell for over \$500 and is an excellent choice for fishing in mountain streams. ❖



At the Sam Rizzio Youth Fly Fishing Clinic held in May, Elizabeth Farquharson (r) won a guided fly fishing trip to Nacoochcee Bend, courtesy of Unicoi Outfitters and Joe DeGonge (l), UCC Vice President, agreed to be her guide. As you can see, Elizabeth seems to have mastered the basics pretty well as Joe proudly shows off one of several nice fish she landed. No wonder she is wearing sun glasses. Her future is very bright!!! ❖

Backcast: May Meeting Report

President Mack Martin welcomed guest and new members and reported on the success of the Sam Rizzio Youth Fly Fishing Clinic as well as plans for the upcoming Trout Camp sponsored by the Georgia Council. Our chapter will be sending three campers to this year's program.

Don Kengla provided reports on the recent trip to the Davidson River and the work day on Pretty Creek. A special thanks to Don for all his fine work in organizing these events. Kevin McGrath gave an update on the upcoming chapter trip to Calloway Gardens and explained that he would be providing more info about the "Back the Brookie" program in June. Dutch Earle gave an update on the upcoming chapter trip to Canada.

The program was presented by Dave Duffy and Carl Warmouth about the upcoming FFF South Eastern Conclave at Calloway Gardens on June 3 and 4. Dave, a native of Montana, lives in North Carolina and is president of the South Eastern Council of FFF and Carl is the manger of the fly fishing program at Calloway Gardens. Dave explained that a "conclave" is a gathering of the clan and that the FFF focuses on education. Dave and Carl are both TU as well as FFF members and Dave explained the FFF is involved with conservation efforts, often along side TU. Dave explained the format of the conclave with its emphasis on providing an assortment of interesting and very educational programs. This year is the first time the South Eastern Conclave has been held at Calloway and with good attendance, the Conclave may return to Calloway in future years. The proximity of metro Atlanta to Calloway combined with the variety of activities at Calloway hopefully will make the 2005 Conclave a success.

Following the program, the chapter raffle was held with many prizes. In addition to prizes purchased by the chapter, Mack Martin, Tim Chambo, Ray Gentry and Sid Elliott all donated additional prizes. ❖



In The News!!

Be on the lookout for some more publicity about trout fishing on the Chattahoochee. The September issue of *Fly Fisherman* magazine has a feature article entitled "Hatches on the Hooch" written by James Buice who also works at The Fish Hawk. The article is very informative and includes great photos and pattern suggestions including Scalley's Cripple Caddis by our own Chris Scalley that was featured on the Chattahoochee Flies DVD.

There is a rumor that an upcoming issue of *Trout* magazine will have another feature article on the Chattahoochee River and Chris Scalley.

Dang, there goes the neighborhood!!! ❖



Following May's program about the South East FFF Conclave at Calloway Gardens, several members took advantage of the opportunity. There were a number of excellent programs offered. Pasty Gentry took advantage of a casting class for women taught by none other than Wanda Taylor, shown above being assisted by her husband, Gary. Wanda and Gary are very talented instructors and national leaders in the sport.



Cumberland River Time

Our own Chris Scalley of River Through Atlanta River Guide Service (www.riverthroughatlanta.com), an Orvis endorsed guide service, will be offering a limited number of special drift boat trips on the Cumberland River in July and August.

The Cumberland is a large tailwater in south central Kentucky, about a four to five hour drive from Atlanta. The cold water releases from the Wolf Creek Dam on Cumberland Lake creates an amazing trout habitat that extends for close to 70 miles. The riverbed is mostly limestone which creates a fertile ecosystem for caddis, mayflies and stoneflies. Sow bugs and terrestrials also are significant food sources. The area is very scenic but has very limited access; wading and float tubing are impractical. The nature of the river makes it ideal for a drift boat with a jet motor which is what Chris uses.

The water release schedule at Wolf Creek Dam determines the daily strategy. Fishing the last two years has been limited by high water that resulted from heavier rainfalls. Chris is excited about fishing this year because there has been a more normal rainfall. Chris uses his boat to locate the best water flows and conditions. Fishing methods vary based on conditions and the client's preferences. Fishing can be excellent with dry flies, nymphs, emergers and streamers.

Large brown trout are famous on the Cumberland along with some healthy rainbows. A 21 pound monster brown trout was taken in the summer of 2000, breaking the old Kentucky state record by almost 3 pounds! Last year, Kentucky implemented a slot limit on rainbows which Chris believes will further improve the rainbow fishing. Another plus on the Cumberland is presence of some healthy striped bass that will put you and your equipment to the test. In 1999, Gerald McDaniel scored an IGFA line class world record striped bass weighing 45 pounds!

Nine foot rods are ideal for the Cumberland and having a four or five weight for dries, nymphs and emergers and a seven or eight weight for streamers gives you some great options. Streamer fishing can be very productive for larger trout as well as striped bass.

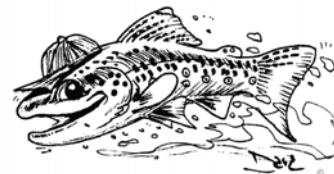
If you are interested in knowing more about the Cumberland, call Chris at 770-650-8630 (office) or 770-597-8096 (cell). Also check out his web site at www.riverthroughatlanta.com for additional information and photos of the Cumberland. ❖



Nice rainbow trout, brown trout and striped bass can be taken on the Cumberland River. When the weather gets hot in Atlanta, the fishing gets "hot" on the Cumberland!

RIVER THROUGH ATLANTA

CHATAHOOCHEE RIVER GUIDE SERVICE



Forward Cast

Please check www.ucctu.org for updated information. Chapter meetings are held at Miler's Ale House at 10750 Davis Road in Alpharetta (678-277-2581).

June –

21 – Canadian Trip, Black River, Quebec
25 – Paddle Georgia, Chattahoochee River
28 – Chapter Meeting, John Biaggi & Chris Martin, Trout Growth in the Chattahoochee River

July –

9 – Chapter Fishing Trip, Calloway Gardens
26 – Chapter Meeting, Kevin McGrath, Back the Brookie Campaign ❖

Fly of the Month: Foam Beetle

By Salvelinus Fontinalis



Summer and early fall are terrestrial times when more trout are taken on terrestrials than any other insect. Here's a classic beetle pattern that is easy to tie and very effective. This pattern is effective on the Chattahoochee tailwater and can be a real killer pattern on small North Georgia streams from mid summer though fall.

Recipe:

Hook: TMC 100 or Mustad 94840 sizes 12-18

Thread: 6/0 Black

Body: Peacock wrapped on hook shank

Shellback: Black foam

Legs: Dyed black elk hair (coarse) Head: Trimmed end of foam shellback

Tying Instructions:

1. Debarb hook and tie in 3 or 4 herls of peacock at bend.
2. Tie in a thin strip of foam two inches long, a hook gape wide at hook bend.
3. Twist the peacock herls into a rope and wrap up the hook shank to behind the hook eye.
4. Select three coarse elk hair fibers and tie them in crosswise just behind the hook eye. Legs should stand out 90 degrees from hook shank each side.
5. Fold the foam strip over the top of the body to form the shellback and tie down behind the hook eye. Tie in a small red, orange or yellow piece of foam as a strike indicator.
6. Whip finish and trim the leftover foam leaving a small head.

Go Fishing! ❖

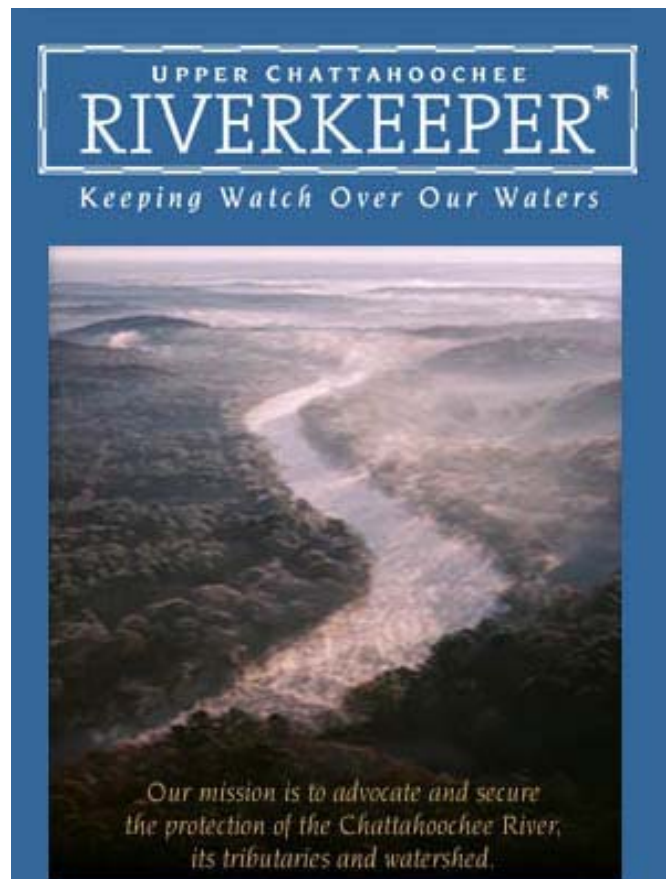


Local River Issues Update

By Dutch Earle (hearle@esisearch.com)

Over the past several months, two residence of Riverside Road, near Martin's Landing and Northcliff subdivisions, cleared the brush and some trees of the river property across from their homes. Through the joint efforts of UCCTU representatives, Tom Wilson from the Roswell city government and Chris Scalley, the residents have replanted several trees and are letting the brush grow back. The area should be back to normal over time. UCCTU members are encouraged to call similar situations to leadership's attention so that we can keep the river in as much a natural state as possible.

Did you know that the City of Roswell owns slightly more than an acre of riverfront land on Riverside Road, near Martin's Landing? The City is in the early stages of development discussions. One idea is to use it for parking and easier river access for anglers. What are your thoughts? Email your ideas, thoughts, concerns, etc to Dutch Earle at hearle@esisearch.com. ❖



Kenai River Special

By Dave Scadden



UCCTU Special Offer

UCCTU member, Mike Richardson, is offering to all chapter members the Kenai River Special pontoon boat for \$999.99. This boat retails for \$1399.99 and comes with a lifetime warranty. The boat fits into a 46" x 20" x 16" duffel (with the exception of the oversize rear deck) and includes the following standard features.

- Stainless steel, adjustable foot rests
- 10' 6" length, 58" wide, 16" diameter pontoons
- 44oz urethane bladder material (industry standard is a mere 22 oz)
- Oversize diamond plate rear deck, 48" x 18" with built-in motor mount
- Two custom fitted side pockets/stripping baskets
- Built-in padded rod holders - tippet dispensers - drink holders
- Fully adjustable contoured seat
- Quality 7 ft. oars w/Oar Rites and naval bronze oar locks
- 700 lb. Capacity
- Ferrari whitewater grade (2800 denier) pontoon material - 24 oz(Top) - 28 oz(Bottom)
- Thru-the-frame anchor system
- Halckey-Roberts valves

Optional accessories include:

- Wheel and Fork: Retail \$99.99; TU \$89.99
- Dual Action Hand Pump: Retail \$39.99; TU \$35.99
- Padded Boat Bag: Retail: \$129.99; TU \$124.99
- Power Strine Fins: Retail \$34.99; TU: \$29.99

For more information, check out the chapter web site at www.ucctu.org. ❖

Paddle Georgia

This summer, the first ever Paddle Georgia event will be held. This week-long event begins on June 25th and takes participants on a 110-mile canoe/kayak adventure on the Chattahoochee River from Buford Dam to Franklin. Paddlers can register for the week-long trip for one or more days during the week. There will be nightly camping with meals, games and entertainment and tours of nature centers and power plants along the way. This event offers a unique way to experience Georgia and the Chattahoochee River. This event benefits the Georgia River Network and Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. For more info, <http://www.garivers.org/paddlegeorgia/pghome.html>. ❖

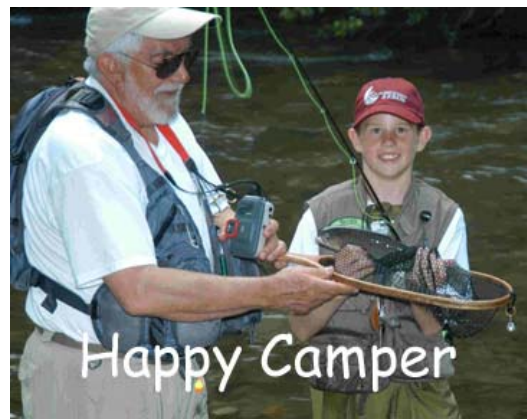
Fishing Report

Looks like summer has arrived but the cold water releases from Buford Dam should provide good fishing on the upper Chattahoochee tailwater through the summer. You may find it more productive to move upstream as the weather heats up. Nymphs fished deep, along runs and in seams should be productive. In addition terrestrial patterns, especially ants and beetles, fished on the surface or just below the surface also may be effective. For current recommendations check with Fly Box Outfitters (770-971-2208), Orvis Norcross (770-798-9983), Orvis Buckhead (404-841-0093), The Fish Hawk (404-237-3473) or Chris Scalley (770-650-8630).

Blue Ridge dam provides a similar opportunity on the Toccoa tailwater near Blue Ridge. Access is limited and water releases can be erratic so it's best to check with Unicoi Outfitters in Blue Ridge (706-632-1880) on current conditions.

North Georgia streams may also fish well this summer depending on water levels and temperatures. Check with Unicoi Outfitters in Helen (706-878-3083) or Blue Ridge (706-632-1880) for suggestions. Summer also can be a good time to fish the Smokys and other areas of Tennessee or western North Carolina. While you may have to be selective about the areas you fish, one of the benefits of summer fishing is how responsive mountain trout can be to dry and terrestrial patterns. However, some words of caution – trout in small clear streams can be **very** spooky!!! ❖

Georgia Trout Camp



Georgia Trout Camp



Mack teaches casting



Casting Contest Winners



USFS explains stocking



Tying with Bob and Jimmy



Shocking Fish

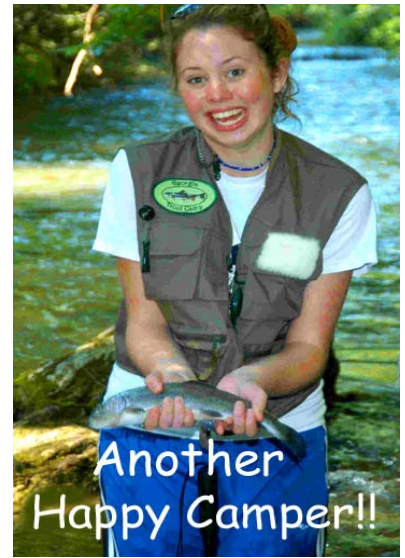


Classroom Instruction

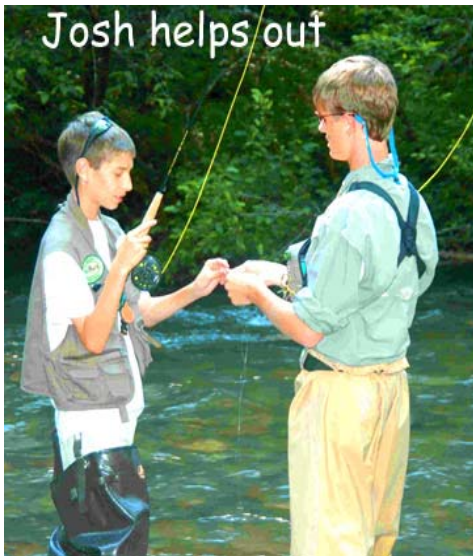
Georgia Trout Camp



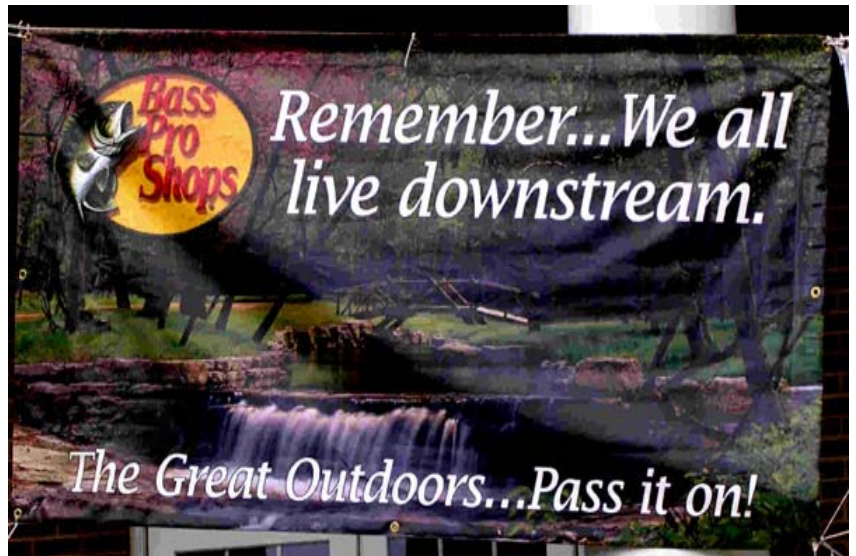
Entomology at Smithgall Woods



Another Happy Camper!!



Josh helps out



Back the Brookie: July 26th Chapter Meeting



Our July meeting presentation will be an introduction to the TU Southeast Region's Back the Brookie Campaign by UCCTU's Kevin McGrath who is Georgia TU's Back the Brookie Chairman. Come and learn about this new TU program and have a chance to win special Back the Brookie prizes.

Brook trout are known as aquatic "canaries in the coal mine"; if brook trout begin to disappear from our waters, it may indicate our streams and rivers are in trouble. Unhealthy streams are a problem for people, who depend on water for health, recreation and economic benefits.

Southern Appalachian Brook Trout are genetically different from other brook trout. As the only native salmonid in the southern Appalachians, Southern Appalachian Brook Trout have economic, ecological and recreational importance. Because they are a unique component of the region's wild trout resources, maintaining and enhancing Southern Appalachian Brook Trout populations are primary management concerns.

In Georgia, almost 140 miles of stream support wild brook trout. Twenty four Southern Appalachian Brook Trout populations inhabit thirty six miles of these streams. Good news - all of Georgia's known Southern Appalachian Brook Trout populations occur on public lands!

Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia have joined together in a multistate conservation campaign designed to conserve, protect and restore brook trout, and the waters in which they live. The program consists of four elements:

Advocacy – Working for long-term solutions to serious problems.

Conservation – Focusing on watersheds and native fish

populations.

Education – Threats to Coldwater are Sociological in Nature. Solutions are Based in People.

Strengthening – increasing the visibility of TU and our membership.

Concern for brookies is not limited the Southeast. TU has partnered with the National Fish Habitat Initiative through the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture to protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the range of the brook trout from *Maine to Georgia!* The joint venture is a historic partnership between federal and state agencies, regional and local governments, businesses, conservation organizations, academia and citizens.

Join us on Tuesday, July 26th for our Chapter meeting starting 6:30 PM at the Alehouse; 10750 Davis Dr.; Alpharetta, GA 30004; Mansell Rd. near GA 400; 678-277-2581. Special Back the Brookie items will be raffled! ❖

BACK THE BROOKIE

Now until July 15

SAVE 25% ON A NEW FLY ROD OR REEL

From now until July 15 bring in an old rod or reel to any Orvis retail store to donate to the Orvis rod swap and you'll receive this special, one-time 25% discount when you purchase a new rod or reel. You'll also have the pleasure of knowing your donated tackle will go to charitable kid's organizations.

ORVIS

ATLANTA | Buckhead Square
3255 Peachtree Rd. NE | Atlanta, GA 30305
404 841 0093

NORCROSS | The Forum
5161 Peachtree Pkwy. | Norcross, GA 30092
770 798 9983

