

# Protecting farms, forests, and front porches for future generations

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## A ramble through the Greenprint

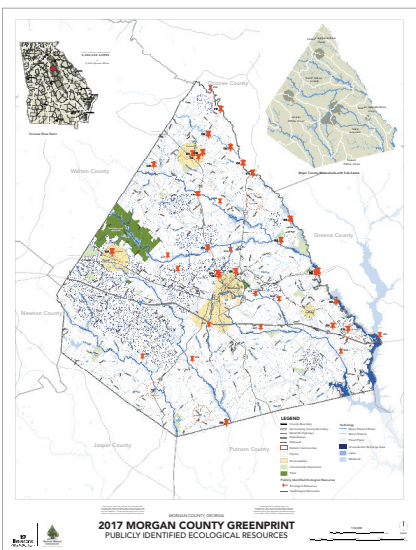
Did you know Morgan County is the only county in Georgia to have its own countywide conservancy? If you drive around or look at aerial photos, you can tell. Or maybe you can't tell since conservation is almost impossible to see.

The Conservancy has spent thousands of hours over the last eighteen years doing just that – driving around (in a hybrid, of course), meeting with landowners, and exploring the farms, forests, and front porches that make Morgan County special.

Their research can be found in the Greenprint Rambles on its website. If you'd like a hard copy, pick one up from their office, jump in the car with a friend, and take your own drive through the rolling hills, bucolic farmland, and unique historic towns. You'll see something you've never seen before, and it's guaranteed you'll learn something about this place you call home.

The recently updated Morgan County Greenprint documents over 200 preservation opportunities – everything from histor-

ic farm houses, to beautiful openspaces, to the best farming soil, to rare plant species, to historic mills, to ground-water recharge areas, and everything in between. The Greenprint Ramble celebrates those special places and people, and the Conservancy encourages you to get out there to see what has been learned along the way.



ABOVE: Worker Housing along Dixie Hwy and GA Railroad (now CSX).

LEFT: Morgan County Ecological Resources Greenprint Map 2017.

If there is a special place you would like to see protected, contact the Conservancy, 706-818-8046 or [info@mmcGeorgia.org](mailto:info@mmcGeorgia.org)

to have the information included in their continued Greenprinting efforts. In the meantime, ramble on and enjoy!

## Junior Conservancy – taking the ‘bored’ out of board

The Conservancy's track record since its founding in 2000 shows significant conservation, support of local farmers, consistent and timely education, maps galore, a few restoration projects, fun events, and a sustained good working relationship with many non-profit partners and local governments. It's been a slow and steady growth with consistent results. But that track record hasn't, until now, included a formal, coordinated approach to engaging Morgan County's youth.

During the strategic planning session two years ago (the same one in which the Endangered Properties Revolving Fund was conceived), the board looked back on the ways the Conservancy had engaged Morgan County's youth, and decided it was time to create a forum in which students

could get more meaningfully involved. Thus, the Junior Conservancy was born.

The Junior Conservancy is designed to provide high school students living in Morgan County (regardless of school) an opportunity to serve on a mock board of directors and to design and execute their own conservation-related programming. Operating within four programmatic silos (education, service, civic, and social), last year's inaugural board held a Greenprint Ramble through Bostwick, made bird feeders with the special needs students to celebrate the first day of spring, helped the Madison City Council proclaim Arbor Day, went ice-skating in Athens, and created and sold Morgan County calendars as a fundraiser. This spring, thirteen students

applied and interviewed for seven open positions for the upcoming 2018-2019 Junior Conservancy Board. We are pleased to announce that Audrey Balicki, John Bostwick, Lipi Desai, James Martin, Davis Moore, Valeria Notte, and Turner Smith will be joining the Junior Conservancy Board next year. Returning from the inaugural board are Claire Coleman, Daisy Jane Buck, Meredith Eidson, Lucia Hodges, Brooke Miller, Morgan Sarkin, Caroline Schlabach, and Will Woodard.



Junior Conservancy Board Members on the Greenprint Ramble through Buckhead.

**“I’m involved in the Junior Conservancy because I find it extremely important to preserve Morgan County’s historical and agricultural places. I have very much enjoyed being a part of that endeavor and I have learned so much about my town and how special it truly is.”**

- Claire Coleman  
Junior Conservancy Inaugural President

This is what the Conservancy calls “Legacy.” We can't wait to see what next year's Junior Conservancy Board does for Morgan County.



Register to vote at the Morgan County Board of Elections' office, through their website, or by mail before April 24 to vote in the May 22 primary election. Registration forms can be picked up from the Board of Elections' Office at 343 Hancock Street, Madison, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Uncle Remus Regional Library, or Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Forms being mailed in do not require postage but must be postmarked by April 24.

### Items and information that will be required include:

- Photo ID
- Date of Birth (DOB): one has to be at least seventeen and a half to register and be eighteen years old by the election date
- Driver's license or social security number

### Important dates to remember:

- April 24: deadline to register for the primary election
- April 30 – May 18: advanced voting at Board of Elections' office
- May 12: Saturday voting for state and federal candidates
- May 22: primary election
- Oct. 9: deadline to register for general election
- Nov. 6: general election

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