

Why the Okefenokee Matters

- On the northernmost edge of Florida and in the heart of southern Georgia lies one of the most outstanding examples of an ecologically intact swamp in North America.
- **The Okefenokee Swamp is North America's largest blackwater wetland, sheltering diverse habitats and an incredible array of wildlife.**
- The Okefenokee retains its natural hydrology, storing immense volumes of water through both flood and drought years and supporting dependable, quality habitats ensuring resiliency for the communities around it.
- The swamp serves as the headwaters to two major rivers, the Suwannee and St. Marys. Its health and vitality are essential to supplying downstream ecosystems with clean freshwater.
- In addition to providing refuge to wildlife, the Okefenokee provides escape to hundreds of thousands of people who boat, bird, fish and hunt in its wild lands.
- It is essential that we continue to ensure Okefenokee's healthy functioning for future generations of humans and wildlife.

