

Walking the Talk

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'One's destination is never a place, but rather a new way of seeing things.'

Henry Miller, American Writer
(1891 - 1980)

NATURALLY DOUGLAS COUNTY - ATLANTA'S LURE FOR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

September festivals and events are plentiful in Douglas County as we celebrate the often idyllic fall weather, seasonal harvests, visual and performing arts, and more. The temperatures start to cool a little, the leaves start changing colors, the air is less humid, and it is pleasant to be out and about.



Most people plan their travel vacations for the summer, and look to spend fall autumn week-ends closer to home. There is no place better than right here in Douglas County! It's economical, enjoyable, and easily accessible!

We boast over 8,000 acres of recreational space in our County, including the following that you can enjoy this season.

[Sweetwater Creek State Conservation Park, 1750 Mt. Vernon Road, Lithia Springs](#)

The Park contains 2,549 acres of conserved space with 12 miles of trails and a 215-acre lake for fishing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, and aqua cycling. Overnighters can reserve a campsite or enjoy one of 10 Yurts (furnished circular eco-friendly big tents). The Park staff conducts numerous classes, hikes, photography sessions, birdwatching events, lake paddles, history lessons, and more.

[Clinton Nature Preserve, 8720 Ephesus Church Road, Villa Rica](#)

The Preserve is 200 acres of former farmlands and woodlands permanently preserved for outdoor enjoyment, and features a lake, nature trails, picnic shelters, a disabled-accessible playground, walking tracks, a disc golf course, and hiking trails. The Preserve also contains a pre-Civil War cabin and outbuildings deep in the woods. All have free admission.

[Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Trail & Boundary Waters Park, 5000 Georgia Highway 92/166](#)

The Greenway Trail's pilot section is a ¾-mile, 12-foot-wide paved/hard surface pathway that is 100% disabled-accessible and perfect for walkers, runners, hikers and cyclists. In addition to the Greenway Trail, the Park boasts an additional 12 miles of marked multi-use natural trails for equestrian, running, mountain biking, and hiking. The Park itself is 492 acres that contains multiple active sports fields, children's playground, a 10-acre fishing pond, 18-hole disc golf course, and open areas for equestrian rides. The Aquatic Center features an 8-lane, 25-yard heated competition pool, a 4-lane, heated therapeutic/teaching pool, and a fitness center.

[Dog River Trails, 6000 Georgia Highway 5](#)

The newly opened Dog River Trails, located adjacent to the Dog River Library, boasts a large picnic pavilion, trailhead, two smaller picnic areas, two ¼-mile and one ½-mile walking trails.

For those just as adventurous but maybe less outdoorsy, [the Douglas County Film Trail](#) is a great way to spend an enjoyable afternoon. This Trail is a self-guided tour of some of the hottest locations used for filming in our County. Since the 1970s, 36 different television shows and major motion pictures have been filmed in Douglas County. The map will provide directional information but there is no set order to follow. Visit

www.DouglasCountyFilmTrail.com for the map and more information.

Tourism, whether by others coming into our County or locals enjoying our sights, is an economic boost to our County. Visitors fill up their cars with gas, eat in a restaurant, and stay overnight in a hotel - all supporting local businesses. The promotion of tourism in Douglas County is through our Tourism Office which is located with the Development Authority, and the County's Welcome Center is in the Old Douglas County Courthouse Museum in downtown Douglasville. Tourism Director Ms. Collin Cash can be reached at ccash@co.douglas.ga.us or 678.449.3938. Visit www.NaturallyDouglasCounty.com for additional information.

An added note: The 15th annual September Saturdays Festival will be held Saturdays, September 23rd and 30th on the grounds of the Douglas County Courthouse, and I will host a **'Walking The Talk Listening Session'** Tent as part of the festival on the 23rd. Please drop by and say hello.

Walking the Talk with You,

Romona

