

“The following list provides the strategies considered to be the most important, in priority order, by the committee and the four county commissions.”

River Corridor Management and Intergovernmental Coordination

(Organized by theme or possible sub-committee)

Septic tanks (or, Water quality)

- 1** Establish consistent septic system setbacks on both Florida and Georgia sides of the river (Committee, local governments)
- 4** Encourage proper maintenance of septic systems within the river corridor (Committee, state agencies, local governments)
- 12** Monitor Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) programs in both states (Committee)

Rules and regulations

- 2** Promote bank-to-bank legislation to unify recreation and wildlife management laws (Committee)
- 5** Design shoreline guidelines/incentives e.g. river corridor, vegetative buffers, and setbacks (Committee subcommittee/local governments)

Planning, land use

- 3** Evaluate each County's land use pattern as reflected in their Comprehensive Plans and encourage consistency with river protection, using Best Management Practices (BMPs), and similar measures (Committee subcommittee/local governments)
- 6** Promote conservation easements and/or less-than-fee acquisitions that maintain a forest-based economy and protect river resources by continuing compatible agricultural uses, such as tree farming
- 9** Integrate the St. Marys River management plan into other natural resource management plans, comprehensive plans, and conservation programs on an ongoing basis

Outreach, communications

- 7** Continue and expand annual river cleanups (Committee/WA)
- 8** Continue and expand publications programs: River Guide, POSM newsletter, and website (Committee/WA)
- 10** Hire cost effective Committee administrative assistance to enhance effectiveness and communication - emphasize outsourcing (Committee)
- 11** Establish a St. Marys River library/information clearinghouse/database for use by Committee, citizens, local government agencies (Committee/Watershed Association[WA])