

Restoring Habitat Diversity at East End

Invasive species such as Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) have had an enormous impact on the native ecology of East End and river systems throughout the South. Spreading rapidly, the plant and its berries are now a preferred food of many bird species, who in turn spread the seeds far and wide. Privet has thrived and grown thickly in the South, choking out native plants and limiting habitat diversity.



Volunteers have spent hundreds of hours at East End removing privet and other invasive species such as Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*). In their place, native shrubs and trees are being established.

You Can Help

Remove Chinese privet from your landscape.

Join the East End volunteer team.

Give to the East End project and other GWF conservation programs.

Learn more at www.gwf.org.

To improve the East End habitat, GWF followed state recommendations to “keep common species common”. The Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*), a small, elusive bird that migrates to Georgia in the winter, depends upon the healthy wetland habitat of the East End swamps. Controlling exotic invasive species is an important management tool to reach the goal of keeping the bird common.

