



Save Georgia's Hemlocks

37 Woody Bend · Dahlonega, GA 30533 · 706-429-8010

Annual Report for Fiscal 2011

Dear Friends of Save Georgia's Hemlocks:

Our focus for 2011 was on increasing awareness of the hemlock problem, building momentum for the cause within the community, and providing practical information and hands-on help to save hemlocks. The significant results that were achieved are a clear testimony to the dedication, hard work, and support of our Board Members and Officers, Facilitators, members, and hundreds of other volunteers. With gratitude for an extremely productive year, we are pleased to present our 2011 Annual Report and invite your continued interest, involvement, and support in 2012.

Building on a Solid Foundation

SGH began 2011 with a reaffirmation of our mission, vision, and goals to ensure clarity of purpose and a review of our capabilities to deliver programs to all north Georgia counties where hemlocks are threatened.

Mission: Save Georgia's Hemlocks is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to saving endangered hemlocks through education and charitable service.

Vision: Through our efforts of preservation, conservation and restoration, there will be a healthy population of hemlocks in Georgia for future generations.

Goals: Our goals are to:

- **Educate** – Enhance public awareness of the hemlock woolly adelgid crisis, current practical options, and emerging control technologies;
- **Enable** – Ensure easy access to hemlock information, advice regarding economical solutions and direct assistance to property owners; and
- **Encourage** – Establish understanding of the aesthetic, economic and environmental reasons for property owners to take timely and effective action to save their hemlocks.

Delivering Vital Services

As the condition of infested hemlocks worsened and the economy remained troubled, SGH saw a heightened sense of alarm and greater demand from property owners and others for information and practical help to save their trees. Thanks to the efforts of our many dedicated volunteers who responded to these needs, we were able to:

- Deliver the Hemlock Help Program in 9 counties,
- Present the hemlock message to 1,600+ people,
- Increase our Facilitator corps to 97 volunteers,
- Provide direct help through the Hemlock Help Line to almost 800 individuals and groups,
- Conduct 9 charitable service projects, and
- Give away 1200+ hemlock seedlings.

Highlights of the year included our Annual Meeting at Smithgall Woods, the Hike and Help for the Hemlocks in partnership with our good friends in the Benton MacKaye Trail Association, and a large service project with the Boy Scouts to save more than 550 hemlocks at Foxfire Heritage Center and Museum. Recaps and photos of these and more are on our web site.

Managing Resources Responsibly

Through the generosity of our growing membership, friends, and other nonprofits and our careful use of their gifts, we were able to devote 90% of our spending to educational and charitable service programs. These included Hemlock Help Clinics, Facilitator training workshops, mailing 2,000 awareness post cards, and presentations to schools, property owners associations, and other community groups. We also saved 1,220 trees through charitable treatment projects, helped start a hemlock growing operation with 540 trees, and mentored several other nonprofits with similar missions. We are very grateful to all those who have supported our work.

Planning for the Future

Following the recent mild winter, adelgids have out come earlier than ever and are continuing their spread, putting hemlocks in even more danger. Increased awareness and timely action will be key in 2012. Here are the highlights of our strategic plan to address these challenges:

- Extending our program into 2 more counties
- Conducting more Clinics and other presentations
- Training more volunteer Facilitators
- Expanding our scope and capacity for hemlock treatment and planting projects
- Increasing our outreach to schools, property owners associations, and other community groups

Call to Action

If hemlocks are near and dear to your heart, please join SGH and experience the rewards of sharing your talents and time in support of this vital cause.

With sincere thanks, The Board of Save Georgia's Hemlocks, Inc.

Snapshot of 2011 Accomplishments and Current Capabilities

as of November 30, 2011*

- 9 Georgia counties served by Hemlock Help Program
- 81 Volunteer Facilitators in Georgia and 16 in TN/NC
- Hemlock Help Line available 7 days a week with 775 calls handled in 2011

- 3 Hemlock Help Clinics conducted with 64 attendees in Rabun, Gilmer, and Fannin Counties
- 4 Facilitator Training Workshops conducted with 27 new Facilitators trained
- Hemlock Lessons taught for 350 children in 12 elementary and middle school classes; 2 included hemlock sapling planting on campus and 6 included seedling potting.
- 10 presentations to community groups
- Hemlock information booth, seedling potting, and/or presentation at 7 festivals; donated saplings and educational materials for 2 more festivals
- 5 newspaper articles published; 1 newspaper interview
- 2,000 awareness post cards sent to Fannin, Gilmer, White, and Habersham County property owners
- “Saving Georgia’s Hemlocks” half-hour documentary developed by SGH and produced/broadcast by Windstream Cable TV on Channel 4 “Common Cup” program
- 9 charitable service projects for hemlock treatment, saving 1,220 trees
- 2 hemlock potting projects to prepare trees for future adoption or reforestation; 1,210 seedlings or saplings given to schools, churches, and other community groups
- 2,068 volunteer hours logged

*The fiscal year for Save Georgia’s Hemlocks is December 1 to November 30.

Details of Accomplishments

December 1, 2010 – November 30, 2011

Date	Activity
Dec. 3	Article published in <i>The News Observer</i>
Jan. 9	Quarterly SGH Board Meeting
Feb. 4	SGH Hemlock Lesson for Rabun Middle School in Tiger (24 students & 1 teacher)
Feb. 11	SGH Hemlock Lesson with hemlock sapling planting for Students for Environmental Action at High Meadows School in Roswell (24 students & 2 teachers)
Mar. 14 - 26	WindStream Cable TV broadcast of "Saving Georgia's Hemlocks" documentary on Channel 4 program "Common Cup"
Mar. 15	SGH presentation to Ellijay Master Gardeners (14 attendees)
Mar. 17	Article published in <i>The Gainesville Times</i>
Mar. 23	Article published in <i>The Dahlonega Nugget, Gilmer News, Towns County Herald</i>
Mar. 25	SGH Hemlock Lesson with seedling potting for three 7th grade sciences classes with seedling potting at Gilmer Middle School in Ellijay (150 students & 2 teachers)
Mar. 30	SGH presentation, hemlock farming lesson, and provision of 340 hemlock saplings for Berea Mennonite Church's hemlock farming project, Atlanta. (12 attendees)
Apr. 7	Article published in <i>The Times Courier</i>
Apr. 12	SGH presentation to Hall County Master Gardeners in Gainesville (12 attendees)
Apr. 15	Provision of another 200 hemlock saplings for Berea Mennonite Church's hemlock farming project in Atlanta.
Apr. 17	Quarterly SGH Board Meeting at Frog Hollow near Dahlonega
Apr. 20	SGH presentation to Forsyth County Master Gardeners in Duluth. 72 attendees
Apr. 20	SGH information booth and seedling potting at High Meadows School Earth Day Festival in Roswell. 300 seedlings given to 300 students, parents, and teachers
Apr. 23	SGH Hemlock Help Clinic for Rabun County in Clayton. 17 attendees
May 21	SGH information display and seedling potting at JAKES Day Festival at Smithgall Woods near Helen. Shared hemlock message and seedlings with 60 families.
May 21	SGH presentation at Garden Expo of Mountain Flower Arts Festival in Dahlonega
May 25	Charitable hemlock treatment project for Habersham County resident.
May 29	SGH information display and brief message for 100 attendees of Lake Rabun POA meeting in Lakemont.
May 30	Charitable hemlock treatment project for Union County resident.
May 31	SGH Hemlock Lesson and seedling potting for two classes with 48 students and 2 teachers at White County Intermediate School in Cleveland. Presented large sapling for planting in campus garden.
June 3	SGH information booth and seedling potting for 50 children and their families at Bethlehem Baptist Church Vacation Bible School Festival in Dahlonega.
June 7	Article published in <i>Gilmer News</i> .
June 11	SGH information table and brief hemlock message for 140 attendees of Lake Burton Civic Association annual membership meeting in Lakemont.
June 15	SGH Facilitator Training in Rabun County. 4 new Facilitators trained.
June 16	Article published in <i>The Times Courier</i> .
June 18	SGH Hemlock Help Clinic for Fannin County in Blue Ridge. 25 attendees.
June 25	SGH Hemlock Help Clinic for Gilmer County in Ellijay. 22 attendees.
July 4	SGH information booth at Family 4 th of July Festival on the square in Dahlonega. Shared hemlock message with 50 visitors.
July 10	SGH Annual Meeting and Membership Picnic at Smithgall Woods near Helen

Date	Activity
July 12	500 awareness post cards sent to Fannin County property owners
July 31	500 awareness post cards sent to Gilmer County property owners
Aug. 15	100 hemlock saplings dug and potted for future adoption or reforestation through SGH
Aug. 27	SGH Facilitator Training in Lumpkin County. 8 new Facilitators trained.
Sep 3	SGH charitable hemlock treatment project at Foxfire in Rabun County – 41 large heavily infested trees treated with Safari by trunk spray. 2 volunteers participated.
Sep. 4	SGH presentation to Lake Rabun POA general meeting. 100 attendees
Sep. 14	Information booth and seedling potting program with Headwaters Master Gardeners at Clarkesville Family Night Festival (Habersham County). Shared hemlock message with 110 families who adopted seedlings.
Sep. 24	Supported Headwaters Master Gardeners hemlock education and seedling potting booth at Cleveland Agri-Fest; provided handout materials and 125 seedlings
Sep 28	SGH presentation to HWA Symposium in Corbin, Kentucky. 75 attendees.
Oct. 1	Quarterly SGH Board Meeting
Oct. 1	Hike & Help for the Hemlocks co-sponsored by the Benton MacKaye Trail Association in Cherry Log. 38 volunteers hiked, treated 160 trees with Imidacloprid by soil injection, did trail clean-up, and heard presentation from Jim Wentworth on state of hemlocks in national forests and presentation from Jay Dement on Leave No Trace principles.
Oct. 15-16	SGH information booth at Apple Festival in Ellijay. Shared hemlock message with 130 visitors, gave out 200 sets of informational materials, and got 31 hemlock saplings adopted. 12 volunteers participated.
Oct. 22	SGH Facilitator Training in Rabun County. 6 new Facilitators trained.
Oct. 29	Continuation of SGH hemlock treatment project on Benton MacKaye Trail in Cherry Log. 6 volunteers treated an additional 48 trees.
Nov. 4-6	Provided educational materials and 30 hemlock saplings as donation to HemlockFest via Trees for CJ. 25 saplings were adopted.
Nov. 7	SGH training for Boy Scouts and their leaders (Troop 62 in Cumming, Forsyth County) in preparation for hemlock treatment project at Foxfire Heritage Center & Museum in Rabun County. 20 attendees
Nov. 8	SGH hemlock seedling potting project for 20 Lumpkin Elementary School 3 rd graders through Jr. Master Gardeners program.
Nov. 8	SGH presentation to Whitfield and Murray County Master Gardeners in Dalton. 14 attendees
Nov. 8	SGH donation of 15 hemlock saplings to Dalton State College for planting on nature trails.
Nov. 10	SGH hemlock treatment project on unoccupied shoreline area of “The Narrows” on Lake Rabun. 4 volunteers treated 33 large trees with Safari by trunk spray.
Nov. 11	SGH Hemlock Lesson for four classes of 84 Lovett School 2 nd graders and eight teachers in Atlanta. 2 volunteers participated.
Nov. 12	SGH teamed with Boy Scouts for hemlock treatment project at Foxfire Museum and Heritage Center in Rabun County. 3 volunteers participated with 18 Scouts and 7 adult leaders to treat 567 trees with Imidacloprid by soil injection.
Nov. 15	Participated in volunteer hemlock treatment project sponsored by Mountain Stewards in Wildcat Tract wildlife management area of Dawson Forest. 2 volunteers participated.
Nov. 27	SGH Facilitator Training in Dahlonega for members of Go Outdoors USA. 9 new Facilitators trained.
Nov. 27	Charitable hemlock treatment project for Lumpkin County resident. 12 volunteers treated 255 trees with Imidacloprid and Safari.
By end of Nov.	1,000 awareness post cards mailed to property owners in White and Habersham Counties.

Financial Report

Income & Expense for Fiscal Year 2011

Total Contributions	Educational Spending	Charitable Service Spending	Administrative Expense**	Membership/Fundraising	Total Expenses	Cash on Hand
\$14,090.56	\$6,404.21	\$5,070.77	\$900.57	\$393.46	\$12,769.01	\$6,609.10
	50%	40%	7%	3%		

Cumulative Income & Expense for Fiscal Years 2009 – 2011

Total Contributions	Educational Spending	Charitable Service Spending	Administrative Expense**	Membership/Fundraising	Total Expenses
\$30,553.63	\$13,260.73	\$7,699.60	\$2,561.63	\$393.46	\$23,915.42
	55%	32%	11%	2%	

Contributions/Funding by Source in Fiscal Year 2011

Amount	Percent	Sources
\$5,790.48	41%	Donations from individuals
\$2,155.63	15%	Funding from foundations
\$3,812.45	27%	Membership contributions
\$2,160.00	15%	Gifts in kind
\$172.00	1%	Donations from other nonprofit organizations
\$14,090.56	100%	TOTAL

Cumulative Contributions/Funding by Source in Fiscal Years 2009 – 2011

Amount	Percent	Sources
\$18,319.49	60%	Donations from individuals
\$3,655.63	12%	Funding from foundations
\$4,692.06	15%	Membership contributions
\$2,891.45	10%	Gifts in kind
\$995.00	3%	Donations from other nonprofit organizations
\$30,553.70	100%	TOTAL

Balance Sheet

	11-30-09	11-30-10	11-30-11
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
1000 · Operating Checking	900.97	5,314.66	6,609.10
Total Checking/Savings	900.97	5,314.66	6,609.10
Other Current Assets			
1210 · Prepaid other		308.58	308.58
Total Other Current Assets		308.58	308.58
Total Current Assets	900.97	5,623.24	6,917.68
TOTAL ASSETS	900.97	5,623.24	6,917.68
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
2000 Accounts Payable	-94.59		
2312 · Accrued Other			628.52
2500 · Deferred Grant Income		1,288.15	632.52
Total Other Current Liabilities		1,288.15	1,261.04
Total Current Liabilities	-94.59	1,288.15	1,261.04
Total Liabilities	-94.59	1,288.15	1,261.04
Equity			
3000 · Unrestricted Net Assets		995.56	4,335.09
Net Income	995.56	3,339.53	1,321.55
Total Equity	995.56	4,335.09	5,656.64
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	900.97	5,623.24	6,917.68