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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Geologist-Led Walk September 30 at Chattahoochee East Palisades Unit

Dr. Bill Witherspoon, co-author of the popular guide, *Roadside Geology of Georgia*, will guide a free walk from 2:00 to 5:00 PM on Sunday, September 30, sponsored by Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy.

The walk examines the rocks and landscapes of the East Palisades Unit in northwest Atlanta. Participants will gather at the Indian Trail parking area for a moderate two-mile loop hike. Walkers will visit a rock shelter used by Indians for thousands of years, which is also one of Atlanta's largest and best natural exposures of its most typical rock type, biotite gneiss. They will continue to a cliff of the Palisades, overlooking Devil's Racecourse Shoals on the Chattahoochee. In the view that reaches to tall office buildings of Cobb County, the valley carved into the Piedmont by the Chattahoochee is especially apparent. Along the trail are outcrops of the tough rock, quartzite, which is responsible for the impressive depth and steep walls of Chattahoochee Palisades gorge, as well as at other Georgia gorges, on the Tallulah and Flint Rivers.

Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy is offering this trip as part of its celebration of the 40th anniversary of the opening of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area by the National Park Service. **Pre-registration is required** at <https://www.chattahoocheeparks.org/events>. There is no charge for the walk, though a valid Park Pass is required for parking (see <https://www.nps.gov/chat/planyourvisit/fees.htm>).

Roadside Geology of Georgia, a full-color 320-page guide, is the 31st book in a Mountain Press Publishing series for the general reader that has sold over one million copies. "Our goal is to take the reader to Georgia's natural wonders and explain the science that lies behind the scenery," says Witherspoon, who taught geology to K-12 students and their teachers for 17 years at DeKalb County Schools' Fernbank Science Center. He co-authored the 2013 book with Dr. Pamela Gore of Georgia State University.

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