



300 Osborne Street  
St. Marys, GA 31558  
(904) 875-6255  
www.stmarysriverkeeper.org

10/28/2021

Contact: [communicationsmrk@stmarysriverkeeper.org](mailto:communicationsmrk@stmarysriverkeeper.org)

## **New Executive Director Takes Helm at the St. Marys Riverkeeper: Emily Floore**

Oct. 29, 2021-Emily Floore, Education Director for the St. Johns Riverkeeper, will take over as head of the St. Marys Riverkeeper in January, 2022. An experienced educational biologist, Floore brings the combination of scientific knowledge, educational skills and grant writing experience needed for the position.

"I am honored to join the St. Marys Riverkeeper family and am looking forward to getting to know the community that calls this watershed home," Floore said. "We must continue to give this small but mighty river a voice through scientific investigation, education, advocacy, and engagement. The St Marys River is critically important to our community that relies on clean, fresh water for recreation, tourism and our livelihoods. Join us and together we can preserve and protect the St. Marys River! See you on the river soon."

Floore's five years at the St. Johns Riverkeeper required extensive management, technology and science experience that will be necessary as head of the non-profit organization. Her previous jobs included Planetarium Educator at Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History, and Shipboard Education Coordinator at Bayshore Center at Bivalve. She has a BS in Coastal Biology from the University of North Florida and a BA in Political Science from College of Charleston.

"We are so pleased to have a Executive Director/Riverkeeper of Emily's caliber come aboard to help our organization continue to grow in the right direction," said Steve Shurter, Chairman of the Board for the St. Marys Riverkeeper. "Since 2016 we have been working to keep the river clean, and she will bring the ideas, hard work, and experience we need for the next steps."

The St. Marys River is 130 miles long, winding through four counties in two states. More than 60,000 residents depend on the health of the river for tourism, recreation, commercial fishing, and safe drinking water. Wildlife and plant ecosystems rely on the continued cleanliness of the watershed, including 3,000 miles of streams and tributaries.

*The St. Marys Riverkeeper (SMRK) is a nonprofit environmental organization devoted to protecting and enriching the St. Marys River watershed through water quality monitoring, education and advocacy.*

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