Anyone can help to keep forests healthy. Here are a few ways that you can share in Georgia’s efforts to conserve natural resources and working forests.

**Tip # 1: “Leave no trace”**

This commonly known phrase is a reminder not to pollute or disrupt natural environments. Some examples of how to not leave a trace are to:

- plan ahead to avoid unnecessary trash
- dispose of waste properly
- leave the forest as you found it
- respect wildlife

**Tip # 2: Plant trees**

Private and managed forests across the state plant trees on a regular basis and so can you! Explore your neighborhood, school, or local organizations to participate in service projects that are planting trees to restore Georgia’s forests.

**Tip # 3: Recycle**

Many products in the forestry industry, including some paper and cardboard boxes, can be manufactured from recycled materials. By recycling, you can help to reuse Georgia’s natural resources and to support forestry businesses.

**Tip # 4: Conserve resources**

Most of the water that central Georgia uses flows down from the forests in the Mountains region. By keeping an eye on how much water you use on a daily basis, you are helping to conserve this natural source of water. From turning off the faucet while you brush your teeth to taking shorter showers, when it comes to conserving water every drop counts!

**Tip # 5: Watch for wildlife**

The presence of wildlife in a forest is a good indication of a healthy working forest. When animals are not present, proper management might be needed. Watch for wildlife in your neighborhood, school, or nearby park to learn about what you can do to help keep forests healthy.