For 30 years, residents of Georgia communities struggling with environmental health threats have turned to Environmental Community Action (ECO-Action) for help.

ECO-Action exists to promote a safe and healthy environment by helping Georgia communities organize to address environmental health hazards.

We focus our assistance on those with the fewest resources – low income communities, communities of color, and rural communities.
SERVING COMMUNITIES ACROSS GEORGIA
ECO-Action partnered with the Newtown Florist Club to produce a map of toxic waste sites. The map was used to conduct “toxic tours” of the community to educate public officials about the environmental situation, and has been used as a model for other communities.
The Newtown Story written by former ECO-Action Board member, Ellen Spears, PhD
In 1994, Congressman John Lewis was a keynote speaker at the Grassroots Environmental Network’s “Toxic Lotto” at the state Capitol to raise awareness of toxic contamination problems in GA. ECO-Action initiated the formation of the Grassroots Environmental Network.
ECO-Action founding Executive Director, Carol Williams speaks at the “toxic lotto” protest at the state Capitol.
The Grassroots Environmental Network, organized by ECO-Action, successfully advocated for regulations that ended the state Environmental Protection Division’s practice of negotiating an enforcement agreement ("Consent Order") in a secret process when a company broke the law. The new regulations required that the community be notified and have an opportunity to comment on the Consent Order prior to it being finalized.
Nakanishi Manufacturing Corp. in Clarke County planned to expand operations, substantially increasing air emissions of the carcinogen, trichloroethylene ("TCE"), and threatening workers, a nearby middle school and the community. ECO-Action worked with a local community group, Northeast Georgia Children Environmental Health Coalition, to organize against the expansion and demand that the company replace TCE with a safer alternative. The campaign won a huge victory when the plant announced it was changing its process to eliminate the use of TCE and replace it with a non-toxic alternative.
A.G.E.N.T.
Leadership Training

Action on Grassroots Environmental Network Training:
Grassroots Capacity Building and Leadership Development
Training for Social Change – Training the Trainer Series
ECO-Action partnered with the Dirty Truth Campaign to create the SAFE Coalition in Atlanta’s Neighborhood Planning Unit-V (NPU-V). SAFE brought community, private and public stakeholders together to identify, prioritize, and reduce exposures to environmental hazards in NPU-V.
Example of a brownfield, located at 1150 Allene Avenue in NPU-V.
Example of a brownfield located at 581 Metropolitan Parkway in NPU-V.
T.I.R.E.D. of Tires:
*Tire Initiative to Reduce and Eliminate Dumping - A project of NPU-V & NPU-L in partnership with ECO-Action*
English Avenue Tire Clean-Up

March 3rd, 2012

• English Avenue neighborhood residents & sector leaders, GSU faculty & student volunteers, and ECO-Action helped collect over 500 tires for recycling.
NPU-V Tire Clean Up

March 10th, 2012

- Community residents, GSU student & faculty volunteers, probationers, and ECO-Action volunteers **collected nearly 3,000 tires.**
One consequence of the climate crisis is the increasing vulnerability of Atlanta neighborhoods to severe weather incidents resulting in flooding. ECO-Action has joined with the Partnership for Southern Equity, Southface, the Transformation Alliance, the Atlanta chapter of 350.org and other local groups to inform low income communities and communities of color about the anticipated impacts of the climate crisis on their families and to advocate for policies and programs to address the climate crisis.
Jeremy Diner, Jason Dosier and Yomi Noibi making their joint presentation to address urban flooding concerns, at the River Rally in Grand Rapids Michigan, May 2017.
Georgia Watersheds
ECO-Action partnered with the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance and American Rivers to develop the Atlanta Watershed Learning Network. The first training series began in April 2017 with 20 participants from Atlanta neighborhoods in the Intrenchment Creek and Proctor Creek areas.
ECO-Action helped establish the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council, a community-based organization working to restore and protect the impaired Proctor Creek.
Downstream view of Proctor Creek from North Avenue. (Note foamy water)
PROCTOR CREEK
COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE HEALTH SURVEY

Team members who conducted the health survey
(Go to www.eco-act.org for the study report and published article).
Why was the survey done?

- Frequent Flooding
  - English Avenue, Vine City, & other Proctor Creek areas

- Indoor mold
  - Water damage and high moisture levels in homes.

- Health problems
  - Asthma, allergies, trouble breathing.

- Concerned Community
Who conducted the survey?

• Residents of Proctor Creek communities
• Many other local, state, and federal partners

• The survey was funded through a pilot grant from the HERCULES* center at Emory University

*HERCULES is funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (P30ES019776).
ECO-Action, Clean Streams Task Force and its partners invite you to

Cut the Crap!
A Rally for Clean Streams and Creeks

The City of Atlanta's combined sewer systems dump poop and toxic chemicals into our steams during rainstorms. You are invited to protest these attacks on our health and environment in Intrenchment, Proctor, Tanyard, Clear and Peachtree Creeks, as well as the Chattahoochee and South Rivers.

May 29, 2015, Forsyth St. at Alabama St.
ECO-Action established a Green Infrastructure Initiative at the Atlanta University Center, engaging students, faculty and staff. Over 300 students were trained in the principles and practices of green infrastructure and water quality issues through science and engineering courses and service learning projects.
Vine City Park, before and after green infrastructure
Lindsay Street Park before and after green infrastructure
ECO-Action helped organize the Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition. The Coalition established a tent city outside the former Turner Field, demanding a community benefits agreement with Georgia State University and its developer, and protesting redevelopment plans that were unresponsive to community needs.
Protesters at the former Turner Field demanding affordable housing and an end to gentrification.
ECO-Action’s Executive Director, Dr. Yomi Noibi was one of five local clean energy leaders to receive an award from actor Mark Ruffalo for their efforts to promote renewable energy in Atlanta.
ECO-Action’s Executive Director, Dr. Yomi Noibi receiving Fulton County’s Emma Darnell Environmental Award, October 16, 2019.
Some of ECO-Action’s Next Generation of Activists!