


UGA Chew Crew to expand into Driftmier Woods

 Rose Tahash

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- *Gaby Pierre, right, a student from Kingston, Jamaica, feeds Chew Crew goat Junior while Corey Klaw, an environmental engineering major from Columbus looks on. (Credit: Mickey Montevideo/UGA)*

Athens, Ga. – The University of Georgia’s Chew Crew goats will be expanding their chewing into Driftmier Woods—a degraded patch of old-growth forest near UGA’s Driftmier Engineering Center.

The small herd of eight to 12 goats will continue consuming invasive, non-native vegetation at Tanyard Creek, and this year UGA students will also develop a mobile goat shelter and outdoor classroom in partnership with “junior herders” from nearby Barrow Elementary School.

The effort is funded in part by a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Motor Company Fund’s College Community Challenge.

Since 2012, the goats have reduced the abundance of invasive shrubs and vines growing along Tanyard Creek between Baxter and Waddell streets. UGA students and community volunteers have collaborated to monitor the goats’ impact on vegetation and water quality. Last year, with Ford C3 grant funding, the Tanyard Creek Chew Crew project expanded to include outreach to schoolchildren at Barrow Elementary.

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