

For Immediate Release
Media Contact: Gayle Popham
404-876-2900 x120, gpopham@gaconservancy.org



**PIERRE HOWARD ASSUMES
GEORGIA CONSERVANCY TOP LEADERSHIP ROLE**
*New Leadership at Georgia Conservancy includes Pierre Howard, Former Lt. Gov., as
President and Allie Wall, Georgia Watch Director, as Senior Vice President*

ATLANTA (May 26, 2009) – The Georgia Conservancy Board of Trustees announced today their selection of former Lieutenant Governor Pierre Howard as president of the Georgia Conservancy, effective immediately. Howard has served as interim director of the Georgia Conservancy since January.

“I am proud to accept this position as president of the Georgia Conservancy,” said Howard. “The Georgia Conservancy plays a vital role in the conservation of Georgia’s natural resources, and I look forward to the challenge of building a greater network of environmental advocates for our state and developing a truly statewide presence. Georgia is blessed with an abundance of natural treasures, from the mountains to the coast, and it is our duty to protect what we have for our own quality of life and for the legacy we leave to future generations.”

Joining Howard in top leadership at the Georgia Conservancy is Allison Wall, director of Georgia Watch and a veteran lobbyist with well-established media connections. Since founding Georgia Watch in 2002, Wall and her staff have worked with state leaders, consumer experts and citizen advocates to promote consumer education and pro-consumer policies across the state.

-MORE-

Georgia Conservancy Announces New Leadership/page 2

“We have a monumental opportunity to advance responsible conservation and management of our natural resources and wild areas in Georgia,” said Wall. “Increasingly bipartisan political consensus, new technologies, federal funding prospects and growing public sentiment are driving this opportunity. We at the Georgia Conservancy have a responsibility to Georgia to lead the way in this effort, and make the most of this moment.”

The Georgia Conservancy Board of Trustees initiated a presidential search process in January 2009 upon the departure of immediate past President Jim Stokes. At the conclusion of the process, the committee opted for two leadership positions to lead the organization in the management of both long-range organizational goals and immediate action needed for the conservation of Georgia’s natural resources.

“It is the unanimous sentiment among Board members,” noted Martin Melaver, current Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Conservancy, “that this melding of newer, influential presences with veteran leadership will enable the Georgia Conservancy to continue to be a visionary steward of the State’s environmental resources for many years to come.”

###

Founded in 1967, the Georgia Conservancy collaborates, advocates and educates to protect Georgia's natural environment. Through its focus on clean air and water, land conservation, coastal protection, growth management and education, the Georgia Conservancy works to develop solutions to protect Georgia’s environment and promote the stewardship of the state’s vital natural resources.