



Issues and Programs Report
3rd Quarter
July-September 2023

Issues Addressed:

Health

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

7/17/23 - 988 one year later examines how the transition to the 988 system is working in Georgia and supporting citizens experiencing a mental health crisis.

Aired on All Things Considered [PM]

7/28/23 – This has been one of the hottest summers on record and as school gets back in session how can we protect student athletes and others from heatstroke and sudden cardiac death who spend time outdoors?

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

8/2 – 8/4/23 – This three-part series on the impact of heat on workers' health looks at the short- and long-term effects of heat on workers' health. What is being done to protect them and how can changes in public policy help?

Education

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

7/10/23 – With climate change becoming an increasing threat to coastal Georgia institutions of higher learning are producing ways to help. Georgia Southern University is launching the state's first PhD program in Environmental Studies. This is part of the university's recently launched School of Earth, Environment and Sustainability.

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

7/11/23 – When school gets out for the summer many children do not get enough to eat. This story visits one county trying to make up for the loss of two meals a day as families cope with a dramatic increase in the cost of food.

Aired on All Things Considered [PM]

7/14/23 With the Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action many colleges and universities are scrambling with how to implement changes without harming enrollment. This story looks at an existing program at Georgia State University that is using the National Institute for Student Success to help at risk and economically disadvantaged kids graduate successfully and on time.

Politics

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

7/17/23 – Residents and girl scouts in Crawford County are protesting a proposed granite quarry but the Crawford County Commission is set to approve it. Opponents say it will harm the environment and create noise in a rural area that has been home to a girl scout camp for over one hundred years. Developers say it will be good for the local economy.

Aired on All Things Considered [PM]

8/25/23 – Following former President Donald Trump's indictment in Fulton County, GPB spoke to historian Allan Lichtman about the event's place in history and the possible impacts on American politics now and heading into the future.

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

8/31/23 – How are the Fulton County indictments impacting Georgia's Republican party? This story takes a look at the infighting within the party and how that will impact lawmakers and the state going forward and in the upcoming legislative session.

Public Policy

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

8/29/23 – Some Hancock County families are fighting a plan by the railroad to take their land in order to ship granite from a nearby quarry. More than likely the state Public Service Commission will approve the plan even though residents have lived on the land for generations, some have owned it for generations as part of sharecropping agreements dating back to the Jim Crow era.

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

9/13/23 – The McIntosh County Commission voted to make changes to the zoning rules that currently govern historic Sapelo Island. The island's community of Hogg Hummock is one of the nation's last intact communities of Gullah Geechee descendants of enslaved West Africans who worked island plantations along the Atlantic Ocean. The changes could make it difficult for residents to pay their taxes in the future.

Environment/Science

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

8/28/23 – Georgia is trying to stave off invasive hornets. The Yellow Legged Hornet can kill native bees making them a threat to the state’s agriculture industry. So far two nests have been found in the Savannah area and they came to this part of the state through the port of Savannah.

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

9/6/23 – Hurricane Idalia caused grave damage to Georgia’s pecan crop. With wind speeds up to 90 mph in South Georgia it is estimated that 50% of the crop was lost. This part of the state is seeing an increase in hurricanes that produces around 30% of the state’s overall crop.

Aired on Morning Edition [AM] and All Things Considered [PM]

9/28/23 – An EPA hearing on coal ash in Alabama has implications in Georgia. The EPA is enforcing rules on how ash ponds can be closed due to the danger they pose to ground water. The EPA did not make it clear that Georgia’s ash ponds that were already closed would have to be mitigated in the future.