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'Lake Sweep' effort fills forty 55-gallon trash bags with garbage

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SENECA — Sections of Lake Keowee are a lot cleaner today thanks to dozens of volunteers.

The "Lake Sweep" pulled a wide assortment of trash out of Keowee that filled 40 large bags during the event.

"This was truly an amazing cooperative event that we hope to continue and grow in the future," said Bill Graham, president of Friends of Lake Keowee Society, which helped mobilize the cleanup along with other organizations.

The 55-gallon bags were filled with about 2,000 cans and a wide array of trash that included eyeglasses, lawn chairs, fishing poles, boat batteries and dirty diapers.

"The lake is too valuable a resource to treat in such a disgusting manner," Graham said.

Also participating in the sweep were volunteers from Duke Energy, the Keowee Key Fire Department Dive Team, McCall Brothers Dive Team and another dive team from The Cliffs Vineyards Fire Department. Also taking part were some 35 members of the "Divers of Carolina."

Jack Lewis, co-commander of the Lake Sweep Program, also is pushing an "Adopt an Island Program" that would operate similar to the Adopt A Road program.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOLKS

Some of the approximately 40 bags of trash are stacked up for proper disposal following a "sweep" of Lake Keowee by volunteers near Falls Creek Landing on Wednesday.

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