

FOR THE JOURNAL

Residents of The Reserve pick up litter along the shores of Lake Keowee as part of Operation Clean Sweep. The Reserve, through its foundation, has undertaken two new environmental projects.

The Reserve adopts stewardship efforts

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SUNSET— In honor of the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day and in line with the 10th anniversary of The Reserve at Lake Keowee, The Reserve and its members have outlined a series of environmental stewardship efforts and activities in and around Lake Keowee.

Members have adopted five islands in Lake Keowee through the "Adopt-an-Island" program created by Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS) and Duke Energy Island Keeper. Property owners and staff from The Reserve have been cleaning the lake and islands, in conjunction with the bi-annual "Lake Sweep," a lake-wide clean-up effort organized by FOLKS. The Adopt-an-Island effort culminated with Boy Scouts and leaders from Pickens Troop 51 joining The Reserve in helping clean islands 17 and 17A.

Members have also adopted a four-mile stretch of Highway 133, just off Highway 11. Three more "Adopt-A-Highway" clean-up weekends are planned for 2010. At a clean-up event in February, members of The Reserve picked up 93 bags of litter, including a car bumper and old tires.

Additional environmental stewardship acts are planned for later in 2010, including a Blue Ridge Experience Weekend in September. This event weekend will be open to the public and will feature a concert by Blue Ridge musician Tim Seaman.

"One of the reasons we formed The Reserve Community Foundation was specifically geared toward environmental stewardship, so we are excited to use The Reserve's 10th anniversary as a springboard to do more 'little things' that add up to big, positive impacts," stated Kathryn Coleman-Gravely, executive director of The Reserve at Lake Keowee's Community Foundation. "Lake Keowee is a tremendous asset to our area, and we want to do our part in helping it stay clean and beautiful so that it can be enjoyed responsibly for generations to come."