

# FOLKS hosts lake sweep through Sunday



SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Members of the Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS) pose during a previous lake sweep, a biannual cleanup effort on Lake Keowee. FOLKS is hosting its fall lake sweep now through Sunday.

THE JOURNAL STAFF

SENECA — The Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS) is once again hosting its autumn lake sweep.

The sweep will be going on through Sunday, FOLKS president Dale Wilde said, with cleanup supplies provided by Duke Energy and Palmetto Pride.

“Lake sweeps are carried out twice a year along the entire 377-mile-long shoreline — in the spring before the busy boating

season and in the fall to tidy up the lake for the winter months,” she said. “Each event takes approximately one week, and we have anywhere between 60 and 80 boats, with 150 to 200 volunteers, to collect hundreds of bags of litter.”

From the first lake sweep in 1994 through 2022, volunteers have picked up more than 20,000 bags of litter, Wilde said.

“The problem areas continue to be the public boat landings,” she said, “but more effort is being done by the counties to patrol

the areas and provide additional cleanup efforts.”

The program reflects “our long-lasting commitment to preserving this pristine environment,” Wilde said.

FOLKS members pair up with area volunteers for the sweeps. Anyone interested in helping or more information can email [folks@keoweefolks.org](mailto:folks@keoweefolks.org)

“We appreciate all the help,” Wilde said. “Like I have said many times ... more hands make light work.”