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Clean Jordan Lake gathered 10,000th trash bag during spring cleanup

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Pittsboro, NC - Fran DiGiano, president of Clean Jordan Lake, reports that the Annual Spring Cleanup at Jordan Lake on March 28 was a tremendous success. "Thanks to the efforts of 110 volunteers on Saturday, the natural beauty of one-half mile of shoreline was restored. They removed 300 bags of trash and 140 tires in just two hours of work, reaching and exceeding the 10,000th bag collected in our history and surpassing 3,700 tires."

This year's Annual Spring Trash Cleanup targeted a cove on the east side of the Haw River Arm near the joining of Robeson Creek. A flotilla of volunteer boaters ferried the trash bags and tires back to the Robeson Creek Boating Access.

Chatham County's Solid Waste & Recycling Division in Environmental Quality provided a dumpster for the trash and will haul it away. A grant from Bridgestone America's Tires4Ward program will recycle the tires collected.

DiGiano added, "The diversity of volunteers was inspirational. We had students from Carrboro High School, Carolina Central Community College, UNC Chapel Hill, North Carolina State and staff from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources. We also had folks from companies, such as SOLitude Lake Management, and community service organizations, such as Activate Good of Durham and Orange counties and the National Iranian-American Council."

In addition to semi-annual cleanup events open to the general public, Clean Jordan Lake runs an Adopt-A-Shoreline and Adopt-A-Feeder Stream program. It also facilitates community service days by groups throughout the year.

DiGiano reports that "we have cleaned many of the same areas several times in the last five years because every rainfall flushes more trash from all counties in the 1,400 square miles of watershed. I can't imagine the damage to natural habitats and beauty without our volunteers. The only way to solve this problem is to educate citizens about their connectivity to the lake."

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