

# Volunteers partner up to Clean Jordan Lake

Protecting hundreds of thousands of residents downstream from floods, offering recreational opportunities and providing safe drinking water makes Jordan Lake a valuable North Carolina and Chatham County resource.

Yet, the accumulation of trash such as plastic and glass bottles, Styrofoam and tires threatens to impair these beneficial uses, mars the natural beauty of the lake and destroys the natural habitat of wildlife living along the shoreline.

In partnership with the Haw River Assembly the non-profit organization, Clean Jordan Lake, facilitates volunteer programs to remove shoreline trash, informs local and state government agencies about the problem, and recommends trash prevention strategies that will keep the shoreline clean in the future.

For example, on September 20th, about 60 volunteers tak-

ing part in GlaxoSmithKline's Orange Day community program were ferried from the Army Corps of Engineers dock to a heavily trashed shoreline near the New Hope Overlook area. Covering about one mile of shoreline, the volunteers removed 350 bags of trash, 210 tires, and 7 rusted out propane tanks. None of this would have been possible without boat support by the Army Corps of Engineers and Crosswinds Boating Center.

Chatham County Commissioner Sally Kost acknowledges the importance of tourism in Chatham. "Approximately one million visitors come to Jordan Lake each year, and the lake has a tremendous financial benefit on our community. The employees of GlaxoSmithKline along with the efforts of the Clean Jordan Lake organization, the Corp of Engineers and Cross Winds Boating Center should all be commended for their efforts."

Francis DiGiano, President of Clean Jordan Lake, notes

that approximately 12 miles of the lake's shoreline have been cleaned in the past three years and Clean Jordan Lake has attracted about 1,400 volunteers to 19 events in which over 5,100 bags of trash (51 tons) have been removed along with 2,500 tires.

Additional information about these efforts to keep the shores of Jordan Lake clean can be found at [cleanjordanlake.org](http://cleanjordanlake.org).



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