

Press Release – For Immediate Release

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Photos available

Annual Lakeshore Cleanup Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The 10th Annual Lakeshore Cleanup around Tellico Lake is scheduled for March 19 between 10 a.m. and 1p.m.

Sponsored by WATeR (Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir) the event is a real area-wide effort involving 26 organizations, including civic clubs, special interest clubs, schools, churches and communities located in various towns around the lake. Additional assistance is provided by several governmental agencies, including TVA, Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, Tellico Village Public Works, Loudon and Monroe County Sheriff Offices, Loudon County Convenience Center and Santek Environmental.

The purpose of the annual cleanup is to assure the natural beauty of the shoreline by picking up litter, removing larger objects that are safety hazards and in general helping to assure good water quality.

This is possible because of much preplanning before the event takes place. Lakeshore Cleanup Committee chair, Bill Webster and his team of 6 volunteers. They work to coordinate the 26 organizations that are assigned to 55 areas around the lake. Individuals who may not be associated with one the participating organizations may contact the event chair, Bill Webster, (458-4952) to find out how they may participate.

Due to the success of 10 years of lakeshore cleanup efforts, the north end of Tellico Lake shoreline has become much cleaner. The more than 400 volunteers will be expanding their efforts to include areas south of US Highway 411. Some locations are serviced by walking into the areas and the more remote locations are serviced from boats.

This year's event will use more boats to clean the shore areas around the Sequoyah Museum and public areas in the vicinity of Kahite neighborhood and Fort Loudoun State Park.

For the second year, recycling of aluminum and plastic beverage containers will be part of the program. This effort not only earns money for the local Garden Club and reduces the volume of waste that fills up our landfills, but reduces energy consumption for products made with these materials.

WATeR is an all volunteer nonprofit association. Its members work to protect and improve the environment in the Tellico Reservoir Watershed. To learn more about WATeR membership and the cleanup, go to www.tellicowater.org.