

The Reedy Recap Friends of the Reedy River

Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities

Water Quality Monitoring Outings: TBD

The Greenville and Simpsonville water quality monitoring teams will head to the river in mid-February. Updates will be announced on our **social media** and in our Monitoring Team Email. **Contact us** if you are interested in joining either group and **Join Our Monitoring Team** to receive future updates!

Litter Sweep at Conestee Nature Preserve: February 18 Conestee Nature Preserve is partnering with Friends of the Reedy River for volunteer litter cleanups at the Preserve this winter. **Find more info here!**

Cleveland Park Stables Invasives Pull: February 24
Help prepare the rain gardens at Cleveland Park Stables for new plants this spring
by helping remove invasive plant species with us! <u>Learn more & register to join</u>
here!

FoRR's Spring River Cleanup: April 1

Save the date for our Spring Cleanup! Registration opens early March. Stay tuned for details!

See the latest water quality data **HERE!**

January In Review...

January 20 Greenville Technical Charter High School Serve-Day

FoRR participated in the Greenville Tech Charter High School (GTCHS) Serve

Day last Friday with fourteen students and their advisor. The students rotated through two different stations: one for litter collection, and the other for water quality monitoring (freshwater and brief overview of macroinvertebrates). The students were very enthusiastic and we were able to gather quite a bit of garbage. Thank you to all who participated!





January 21 Litter Sweep at Conestee Nature Preserve

Friends of the Reedy River partnered with Conestee Nature Preserve, the South Carolina Aquarium, Greenville County Litter Ends Here for a litter sweep at CNP on Saturday, January 21. They had 60 volunteers and gathered 7,100 items in just two hours! They documented the items through the Anecdata app (check out the data and photos from the event here). Thank you to everyone that participated!





Watershed Partners: January Litter Cleanups

Our friends throughout the watershed have been working hard to keep our river and surrounding lands clean this month! United Way of Greenville County partnered with Greenville County Litter Ends Here, Palmetto Pride, and the City of Greenville on January 16 to remove litter from the Reedy River watershed in the Nicholtown and Brutontown neighborhoods in honor of Martin King Luther Jr. Day. Then, our friends at Keep Laurens County Beautiful held a cleanup at the Boyds Mill Pond dam on the Reedy River on January 28 to continue these efforts. Members of the Friends of the Reedy River Board of Directors volunteered at both cleanups to lend a hand and

show their support. Thank you to our awesome watershed partners for working together to keep our river clean!

(Photo on left from Greenville County Litter Ends Here. Photo on right from Keep Laurens County Beautiful.)

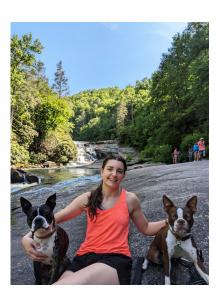




Board Member Highlight

Each month, we will be featuring a different FoRR Board Member with a brief biography and a fun Q&A session. Our first featured Board Member is our Treasurer, Madeleine Bolick!

Madeleine Bolick, Treasurer





Madeleine is an environmental data scientist, currently completing her doctoral degree at Clemson University. Her research focuses on using advanced techniques such as GIS analysis, remote sensing, UAVs, and machine learning, to explore and solve environmental problems. Madeleine previously worked in local government as a GIS Coordinator, so she is passionate about educating citizens about their impact on the Reedy River and creating solutions that help both people and the environment.

Madeleine has a B.S. in Biology from Clemson University, a Master's of Environmental Management degree, and a Geospatial Analysis certificate from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University and will graduate with her Ph.D. in Environmental Data Science from Clemson in Spring 2023. Madeleine teaches GIS for Natural Resources Laboratory at Clemson every

semester, and she is part of Women in GIS, Women in Water Outdoors, and Clemson's Geoambassador program.

Madeleine plays an integral part in FoRR's Adopt A Stream (AAS) monitoring team, which she started in the summer of 2019. She is an AAS trainer leading several certification workshops per year. Madeleine takes anyone interested in learning more about the Reedy River to test its water quality once a month. Reach out if you want to come on one of the outings- anyone is welcome! She loves teaching people of all ages technical skills and about environmental stewardship.

When she's not working on research, Madeleine is often walking her Boston terriers at Lake Conestee Park, running/biking the Swamp Rabbit trail, baking something delicious, or working on home DIY projects.

Q: What is your favorite outdoor activity?

A: Walking and exploring new places with my dogs, Bilbo and Pippin.

Q: What is the best vacation you've ever been on, or one that you have upcoming?

A: My honeymoon in Costa Rica was amazing! I loved all of the wildlife, the waterfalls, and how much the local people cared about the environment.

Q: What are you most passionate about impacting in the Reedy River watershed?

A: I am passionate about improving the Reedy's water quality. Each month, I take volunteers out to monitor water quality in three different locations, and our efforts are helping to identify any nonpoint source pollution issues that may be impacting the river. Our monitoring team is helping keep the Reedy River clean!

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