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Spartanburg Water Team Members Pick-Up More Than 38,000 Pounds of Trash
165 employees spent two-days removing garbage from around drinking water reservoirs

SPARTANBURG – Spending approximately eight hours over two days (October 17 and 18), 165 Spartanburg Water employees helped remove 38,402 pounds of trash from around the utility’s three reservoirs – Lake Bowen, Lake Blalock and Reservoir #1. Over half of our employees were able to participate in the event investing more than 800 hours over the two day period to beautify and protect areas around the reservoirs.

This incredible amount of litter, which equates to just over 19 tons, included approximately 815 - 55 gallon bags of trash; along with many larger items, such as a lawn mower, toilets, televisions, refrigerators, mattresses and a gas grill. A total of 231 tires were also removed from the watershed – enough to benefit 58 cars.

The hard work by dedicated Spartanburg Water team members, including the cost of clean-up supplies, equals a total investment of more than \$46,000 by the water and wastewater utility to help improve the watershed directly impacting the organization’s drinking water reservoirs.

“Our Spartanburg Water team members removed an amazing amount of trash that had been dumped around our three, drinking water reservoirs,” said Spartanburg Water CEO, Guy Boyle.

“As a participant in the clean-up myself, it was very disheartening to see the amount of trash simply discarded without thought in areas that directly tie into our community’s drinking water. As Spartanburg County residents, we are incredibly blessed to have access to such remarkable drinking water resources.”

“One of our goals at Spartanburg Water is to continue to communicate, educate and inform our friends and community members of the importance of protecting and caring for these natural resources. Most trash that is not contained in a receptacle will eventually find its way into our watershed, and we believe it is important to continue to educate so that we all will continue to be the beneficiaries of these natural resources.”

He added, “I want to thank our neighbors who live on the lakes, and who continue to take pride in their property. This enabled our employees to focus their attention on areas that bordered our reservoirs, along state and county roads, bridges and neighborhood entrances, as well as small tributaries that flow into the reservoirs.”



ABOUT SPARTANBURG WATER: Spartanburg Water, an industry leading utility, is comprised of Spartanburg Water System and Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District. It serves a population of more than 200,000 within Spartanburg County, as well as others in parts of Greenville, Union and Cherokee counties. With the help of its dedicated team of almost 300 employees, each day it produces an average of 25 million gallons of drinking water and cleans 12 million gallons of reclaimed water for its customers and community. For more information on Spartanburg Water's water quality efforts, visit us at spartanburgwater.org.

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