

Mike LaRue of Lincoln and his grandson Dominic took part in the LMLPA cleanup.



Volunteers support LMLPA effort to keep Logan Martin clean

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Photos by TUCKER WEBB

Volunteers were out in full force during last month's Renew Our Rivers campaign, picking up garbage along the banks of Logan Martin Lake.

As many as 6 tons of trash was collected, according to Mike Riley, chairman of the Logan Martin Lake Protection

Association's annual lake cleanup.

The LMLPA spearheads the cleanup effort each year. It is sponsored by Alabama Power Company.

"We had more volunteers this year," Riley said during the post-cleanup volunteer picnic at Lakeside Park. It was the



Above: Renew Our Rivers volunteers had a good time while making sure the lake was given a thorough cleaning.

At right: WBRC FOX 6 meteorologist Jill Gilardi spoke during the post-cleanup picnic.



first time the picnic was held in the park, and everything went smoothly. “I think the way everybody came forth and helped is overwhelming.”

Riley said Lakeside Park provided picnic tables for volunteers to eat, and he thanked local vocalist Steve Shaffer for providing the entertainment, which he has provided for free each year.

During the cleanup activity, volunteers said they were pleased to see less trash along the banks of Logan Martin Lake this year.

“There’s less stuff to pick up, which is good,” said Martyn Andrew of Pell City, who along with his wife Debbie participated in this year’s effort. “You have to walk further to



Lakeside Park hosted this year's post-cleanup picnic, during which volunteers relaxed after a morning of hard work.

get a load of trash.”

Debbie said this was the fourth year the couple has participated in the annual cleanup.

“It’s a good event,” she said.

Glenn Seay of Pell City sat at one of the picnic tables with his daughter, Lilly Kate, 8, and son, Lawson, 15. The family worked in the Pine Harbor area during the week-long effort.

“We started last weekend. It was easier last week, because the water was lower,” Seay said, adding that the lake level was then about a foot above the winter pool. “I

think there was less trash (this year). Of course, we had a couple of floods. We were forced to clean then, so we got a head start. We weren’t overcome with trash today.”

People in Talladega and St. Clair counties, as well as from other areas, participated in the lake cleanup.

“We cleaned up Tuesday and Wednesday,” said Terry Chappell of Lincoln, who along with his wife Dorothy participated in the cleanup efforts. Dorothy said their great-grandchildren from Georgia, Hudson and Jameson Manns, also helped out this year.

Advance Disposal provided a large dumpster to be used by volunteers participating in the annual LMLPA cleanup. Officials estimate as much as 6 tons of garbage was collected during the week-long effort.

The Chappells said they have participated in the annual cleanup for the past three years. “We had less trash this year,” Terry said. “Last time we got about eight bags. This time, we got three.”

Riley and LMLPA officials were glad to see a reduction in trash along the lake.

“I want to see it get lower and lower,” he said. “That means it is getting cleaner.”

Riley said the new collection site at the civic center was busy this year and served as a central location for most people. LMLPA officials hope to add a new collection site in Lincoln next year. “That would give us seven locations,” he said. 

