



Friends of Lake Keowee Society

Dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Lake Keowee and its watershed through advocacy, conservation and education.

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Jack Lewis Watershed Stewardship Scholarship

Guidelines

Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS) is a 501 (c) (3) entity dedicated to the protection one of the most beautiful lakes in the Southeast - Lake Keowee. FOLKS was established in 1993 to raise awareness of the importance of Lake Keowee and its watershed to the economic and recreational well-being of Upstate South Carolina.

Purpose of the Scholarship: To provide financial support for college to a high school junior who shows a strong interest in natural resource conservation and the environment. The scholarship is based on conducting monthly water quality monitoring for a period of six months and presenting the findings and data to the scholarship selection committee.

Source of Funding: Funding is made available through the FOLKS' operating budget and member matching funds.

Award Amount: A minimum of one scholarship will be awarded each year in the amount of \$2,500. A Scholarship Award Committee comprised of three to five individuals representing FOLKS members and supporters will review all applications. FOLKS will announce the award in February 2022. The award will be available for up to 13 months after high school graduation and will be paid directly to the college upon commitment by the student. If the student is not enrolled in a college program by June 2024, he/she will relinquish the scholarship funds.

Eligibility: Scholarship applicants must be a resident of either Oconee or Pickens County, a full-time high school student in good academic standing, and classified as a Junior during the 2021 – 2022 school year. The applicant shall indicate his/her intent to apply to either a two-year or four-year college curriculum on the application. The applicant shall enroll in the SC Adopt-a-Stream training for Freshwater Monitoring and macroinvertebrate parameters upon notification of award of the scholarship, and complete the training prior to beginning stream monitoring activities. A schedule of classes is available at [Workshops & Events | Public | Clemson University, South Carolina](#) and the classes are offered at no charge. Note that due to limited offerings of macroinvertebrate workshops, this sampling requirement may be waived.

Application Process: The FOLKS Scholarship Application is available at your high school guidance department or online at <https://www.folkskeowee.org/scholarship>. The application must be completed, signed, and all required materials submitted no later than January 14th, 2022. Applications can be submitted by email to keoweefolks@charter.net. Students may also complete and mail a scholarship application to: Friends of Lake Keowee Society, 1209 Stamp Creek Road. Suite A, Salem SC 29676.

The application, in order to be considered complete, must contain the application, completed in its entirety and three letters of recommendation. All submitted paperwork is confidential and becomes the property of Friends of Lake Keowee Society.

Scholarship Expectations: The student shall monitor a designated stream segment for a period of six months, adhering to SC Adopt-a-Stream protocols. Prior to sampling activities, the student will prepare a Pre-Assessment of the assigned monitoring site. This will include an initial summary of site conditions prior to sample collection using the Adopt-a-Stream Habitat Assessment Form, documented by photographs (upstream, downstream, vegetative canopy, stream banks, and adjacent buildings/structures/roads/outfalls). Results of the assessment will be uploaded to the SC Adopt-a-Stream Database.

Monitoring activities will be at the same location and same time of day, as indicated below. For the safety and well-being of the student and in compliance with Adopt-a-Stream protocol, he/she shall be escorted by an adult (teacher, parent, or guardian). A complete monitoring kit will be provided.

- Freshwater monitoring, also referred to as physical and chemical monitoring, is done monthly measuring air temperature, water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity.
- Bacteria monitoring is done monthly, looking specifically at E. coli levels in the water.

- Macroinvertebrate surveys are done quarterly. These surveys record the diversity and abundance of aquatic insects found in the water.

Data and photographs shall be uploaded to the SC Adopt-a-Stream Database within five days of each sampling event (<https://scaas.app.clemson.edu/home.php>).

The scholarship applicant is required to sample the designated stream for a six-month period over the course of 12 months. Freshwater monitoring will be performed for six events and macroinvertebrate surveys will be performed twice (every three months). At the end of the sampling period, the student will prepare and deliver a 10 – 15 minute presentation documenting the data, data trends, and general conclusion as to the overall health of the stream segment.

Questions about the scholarship or application process should be directed to Michael White, FOLKS board chair at white445319@gmail.com.

Friends of Lake Keowee Society
Watershed Stewardship Scholarship
Application

This scholarship is offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, gifts and other contributions have provided funding for the Foundation. resources for the benefit of all.

A. Personal Information

Applicant's Name

Last	First	Middle
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Home Address

County of Residence

Name of High School _____

Home Telephone Number

Date of Birth _____

Email Address: _____

B. Education

Date of High School Graduation

College(s) Planning to Apply/Attend: Include College Name and Location

(1) _____

(2) _____

C. Environmental Leadership & Activity Experience - List and briefly describe any environmental leadership or activity experience, such as participation in Envirothon, Youth Conservation Camp, 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA), etc.

D. Leadership & Other Extracurricular Activities - List all other organizations and extracurricular activities in which you have or currently are participating. Indicate any activities in which you hold or have held office and note which position. Include other activities such as athletics, music, drama, dance, public speaking, clubs, societies, public events/exhibits or awards, list honors or letters earned.

E. References/Letters of Recommendation

Attach recommendation letters from at least three references, other than family members, who can provide additional information about your academic and community activities. List details on those from whom you have requested recommendation letters.

1. Name of Reference:

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____

Telephone: _____

Address:

2. Name of Reference:

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____

Telephone: _____

Address:

3. Name of Reference:

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____

Telephone: _____

Address:

G. Signatures/Certification

In submitting this application, I hereby certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. If declared a recipient of this scholarship, I will provide the Friends of Lake Keowee Society a statement that may be used for publicity purposes.

Applicant: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

H. Additional Information for Applicants

SC Adopt-A-Stream (SC AAS) provides the opportunity for those interested in the protection and improved management of South Carolina waterways to be directly involved in their monitoring and reporting. Volunteers provide vital data for streams that complements local and state data used to determine the health of our waterways. In sharing this information about stream conditions, volunteers, local communities, educators, and local government agencies can partner to protect and restore our waters. SC AAS trained volunteers have the potential to increase awareness within their own community of the relationship between pollution, watershed management, land use changes, and the personal responsibility of each individual within the watershed to be a better environmental steward.

The first step is to become a certified SC AAS volunteer by attending a FREE workshop! Volunteer trainings are available through Clemson University.

Click here to view upcoming training events.

<https://www.clemson.edu/public/water/watershed/scaas/aas-events.html>

As a SC AAS volunteer, you will be qualified to perform freshwater stream habitat assessment with physical/chemical, and bacteria monitoring (test shallow streams).

Volunteers will learn why the chemical and bacteria parameters are important to aquatic life, the significance of different levels, and how these levels can be affected. Trainers will lead the volunteers through field techniques and check techniques in collecting the sample and using

the kits properly. Volunteers are encouraged to sample monthly and must attend a recertification workshop annually. Individuals must pass an open book exam to become a certified volunteer and be able to enter data into the public database.

Volunteers will also learn to identify macroinvertebrates and will collect samples from a stream. Sample collection methods and habitat types are reviewed, and the rocky bottom and muddy bottom methods for collection sampling are demonstrated. The workshop participants will process the collection, complete the SC AAS data form and tally the macroinvertebrate water quality index value to assign the rating for the health of the stream. In order to be certified, volunteers will be tested on their ability to identify macroinvertebrates and interpret the results.