

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friends of the Reedy River Hosts Annual Meeting, celebrates a Year of Growth, Community Impact, and River Stewardship.

Greenville, S.C. - 11/10/2025 - Friends of the Reedy River (FoRR), one of Upstate South Carolina's longest-running environmental nonprofits, hosted its Annual Meeting this week, bringing together supporters, volunteers, community partners, and local leaders to celebrate a year of extraordinary progress in protecting and restoring the Reedy River.

During the event, FoRR highlighted major accomplishments from the past year, including expanded water-quality monitoring, large-scale community cleanup efforts, the ongoing restoration of critical habitats, and strengthened partnerships with local schools and agencies. The organization also shared exciting updates on the Reedy River Meadow project, a native plant site designed to improve water quality, support pollinators, and offer hands-on environmental education for all ages.

The year reminded us of what's possible when a community comes together with purpose, said Scott Butler, Board President of FoRR. "Our volunteers, donors, and partners continue to show up for the Reedy. Their energy fuels this work and keeps the river healthy for the generations who will inherit it."

FoRR leadership also recognized outstanding volunteers "superlatives", introduced new board members, and reflected on the organization's 32-year history of environmental stewardship from preventing pollution and improving stormwater practices to educating the next generation of water advocates.

Highlights shared at the meeting included:

- More than 10,000 pounds of trash collected during community and corporate cleanups
- Significant expansion of citizen water-quality monitoring sites across Greenville and Laurens County
- Educational collaboration with local schools including AJ Whittenburg Elementary, and Furman University Shi Institute.
- Progress on the Reedy River Meadow, with fundraising and design work well underway.
- Launch planning for FoRR Jr, a new youth club that will empower high-school students to serve as environmental leaders and river ambassadors.

Looking ahead, FoRR shared plans for deeper community engagement, continues advocacy for clean water, and new educational initiatives that will further strengthen the Reedy River watershed.

“We are proud of what we have accomplished this year,” said Scott Butler, FoRR Board President. “But more than that, we’re excited about where we’re headed. The Reedy River is a treasured resource, and together, we’re making sure it stays that way.”

FoRR invited community members, businesses, and volunteers to join in the work by participating in 2026 events, becoming a donor, or learning more at www.friendsofthereedyriver.org

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