

Aug. 4, 2008

## Keep Sarasota County Beautiful seeks volunteers for Coastal Cleanup

Keep Sarasota County Beautiful is seeking volunteers to clean coastal and other areas during the 2008 International Coastal Cleanup, Saturday, Sept. 20. The event will take place from 8 a.m.-noon at sites throughout Sarasota County.

According to Keep Sarasota County Beautiful Manager Sandra Washington, this is the world's largest one-day volunteer effort that supports the marine environment. "In 2008, more than 1,000 volunteers from Sarasota County participated in the cleanup," said Washington. "They collected more than five tons of marine debris, including almost 16,000 cigarette butts, and also found entangled animals, proving the dangers that marine debris plays in the coastal environment."

The cleanup will involve coastal areas and a few interior sites at the following locations:

- **In Sarasota**

Bay Island Park, Bayfront Park, Bayou Oaks, Bird Key Park, Blackburn Point Park, Blind Pass Beach, Centennial Park, City Island, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Indian Beach, Lido Beach, South Lido Beach, Myakka River Bridge, New Pass fishing pier, Newtown Estates Park, Palmer Point Beach, Phillippi Creek, Phillippi Estates, Pioneer Park, Point of Rocks, Potter Park, the Ringling Causeway, Siesta Beach, Shoreline Park, and Turtle Beach

- **In Nokomis**

Nokomis Beach, the Nokomis East neighborhood and the North Jetty

- **In Venice**

Brohard Beach, Caspersen Beach, the South Jetty, Service Club Park, Shamrock Park, Venetia Bay Park and Venice Beach

- **In North Port**

Myakkahatchee Creek, Myakkahatchee Park, Coco Plum Waterway, Blueridge Lake, Shover Waterway and Highland Ridge Park

Other areas include the Laurel community, Manasota Beach, Osprey fishing pier and Oscar Scherer State Park.

In the event of rain, the cleanup will be moved to Saturday, Sept. 27.

To register for the Coastal Cleanup, or to become a sponsor, contact Keep Sarasota County Beautiful at 941-861-6767 by Friday, Sept. 7.