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Sarasota County seeks volunteers for Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 19

Sarasota County is seeking volunteers to clean coastal and other areas during the 2009 International Coastal Cleanup, Saturday, Sept. 19.

The event will take place from 8 a.m.-noon at sites throughout Sarasota County.

To register for the Coastal Cleanup, or to become a sponsor, contact Keep Sarasota County Beautiful at 941-861-5397.

People who register for the Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 12 during Volunteer Appreciation Day, or at Westfield Sarasota and Westfield Southgate malls will be eligible to win a \$500 Westfield shopping spree.

“Last year more than 1,000 Sarasota County volunteers participated in the cleanup,” said Sandra Washington, Keep Sarasota County Beautiful manager. “They collected more than five tons of marine debris, including almost 16,000 cigarette butts.”

This is the world’s largest one-day volunteer effort that supports the marine environment, according to Washington.

The cleanup will include coastal areas and interior sites at the following locations:

- **Sarasota**
Bay Island Park, Bayfront Park, Bayou Oaks, Bird Key Park, Blackburn Point Park, Blind Pass Beach, Centennial Park, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lido Beach, South Lido Beach, Myakka River Bridge, New Pass fishing pier, Newtown Estates Park, Phillippi Creek, Phillippi Estates, Pioneer Park, Point of Rocks, Potter Park, the Ringling Causeway, Siesta Beach, Shoreland Park and Turtle Beach
- **Nokomis**
Nokomis Beach, Nokomis Community Park, Nokomis East neighborhood and the North Jetty Park
- **Venice**
Brohard Beach, Caspersen Beach, South Jetty Beach, Service Club Park, Shamrock Park, Venetia Bay Park and Venice Beach

- **North Port**

Assemble at North Port City Hall, 4970 City Hall Road.

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

In the event of rain, the cleanup will be Saturday, Sept. 26.

Information about the international clean up is available at www.oceanconservancy.org.
For information about Keep Sarasota County Beautiful, go to
<http://www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalService/KeepSarasotaBeautifulKSCB.asp>.

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