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Hancock County Beautification Committee
Hancock County Board of Supervisors
Hancock County Chamber of Commerce
Hancock County Solid Waste
Harrison County Beautification Commission
Harrison County Board of Supervisors
Harrison County Sand Beach Department
Harrison County Sheriff's Department
Harrison County Utility Authority
Heritage Trails Partnership

Sponsored by the
Mississippi
Marine Debris
Task Force

Jackson County Board of Supervisors
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
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Jackson County 4-H Club
Keep Mississippi Beautiful
Keesler Air Force Base
Mississippi Air National Guard CRTC-Gulfport
Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium
Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
Mississippi Power
Mississippi State University Coastal Research & Extension Center
Naval Construction Battalion Center
North Gulfport Community Land Trust
Office of Congressman Gene Taylor
Rotary International District 6840
Sea Coast Echo
University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Waste Management



For Immediate Release: Oct. 12, 2010

Contact: Lisa Damiano Jones, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, (228) 523-4138.

Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Volunteers Fill Out Data Cards to Help Identify Sources of Marine Debris, Enact Change

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) and the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force would like to remind Mississippi Coastal Cleanup volunteers to be at their designated sites at 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, rain or shine. Exact locations of sign-in sites can be found at the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Web site at www.mscoastalcleanup.org. Click on “Clean-Up sites” to use “Google Maps” for directions, or call your county coordinator: Jackson County, 228-938-6612; Harrison County, 228-214-1405; Hancock County, 228-467-9048.

Volunteers will help remove debris from inland areas and waterways this year instead of the beaches and barrier islands, and they will fill out Data Cards identifying the types of debris they find. The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup has partnered with Renew Our Rivers in their shared goal of keeping our waterways clean.

This year’s event will provide organizers with a new snapshot of the kinds of debris that travel to the ocean by way of storm drains and inland waterways. As part of the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC)—the world’s largest volunteer event on behalf of the marine environment—the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup aims to stop marine debris problems at the source. The Data Cards provide Mississippi Coastal Cleanup organizers and the ICC with information about the most prevalent components of marine debris. Each year, the Data Cards are tallied, and from the results, the “Top 10 Debris Items Collected in Mississippi” and the “Top 10 Debris Items Dangerous to Marine Life in Mississippi” are determined. This data provides elected officials and community leaders with the means to make informed policy decisions and to more effectively tailor and expand recycling and other waste reduction programs.

This year, several sites will participate in an effort to recycle the debris they find. Designated groups will separate recyclable trash as they collect it and note on their Data Cards how many bags of recyclables they have. At the end of the day, the total amount of bags will be tallied and sent to the ICC along with other data collected. The Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force plans to expand the recycling effort in coming years and use the data to educate volunteers on the importance of recycling. Among recyclable trash to be collected are aluminum cans, plastic bags, bottles and even fishing line. Volunteers around piers are encouraged to place any fishing line they collect in the monofilament recycling tubes that can be found at about 45 piers and harbors along the Mississippi coast.

Once Mississippi Coastal Cleanup volunteers complete the Data Cards, they should be turned in to the cleanup site captain, and then volunteers will receive a free eco-friendly tote compliments of Chevron and a meal ticket courtesy of High Cotton Grill for a lunch at the Courthouse Road Pier at Highway 90 in Gulfport, to be served after the cleanup from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 16.

—MORE—

Volunteer lunches will also be provided in Jackson County at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Estuarine Education Center in Gautier courtesy of the Shed and in Hancock County at the Bay St. Louis Depot District courtesy of the Office of Congressman Gene Taylor, the Bay St. Louis Rotary Club and Brooks B.B.'s Snowballs.

Photo Contest: This year the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force will be holding a contest for the photograph of the most peculiar item found during the 22nd annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup. A winner will be chosen for the most peculiar item found in each county—Hancock, Harrison and Jackson. Winners will receive a Mississippi Coastal Cleanup T-shirt featuring the artwork of Savannah LaFontaine whose watercolor picture was chosen to represent the cleanup in the DMR's 2010 Marine Information Calendar. Anyone wishing to enter should e-mail the picture file to photos@dmr.ms.gov and include their name, address and where the item was found.

If you would like to share other photos from the cleanup for posting on the www.mscoastalcleanup.org Web site or the ICC Web site, www.coastalcleanup.org, please e-mail them to photos@dmr.ms.gov.

The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup's planning committee, the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force, is made up of representatives from Ashman & Son, LLC Contractors; Chevron Pascagoula Refinery; City of Biloxi; City of Gulfport; City of Moss Point; City of Ocean Springs; City of Pascagoula; Coastal Rivers; Delbert Hosemann Secretary of State; DMR Marine Patrol; Eco-Tours of South Mississippi; Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve; Gulf Islands National Seashore; Hancock County Beautification Committee; Hancock County Board of Supervisors; Hancock County Chamber of Commerce; Hancock County Solid Waste; Harrison County Beautification Commission; Harrison County Board of Supervisors; Harrison County Sand Beach Department; Harrison County Sheriff's Department; Harrison County Utility Authority; Heritage Trails Partnership; Jackson County Board of Supervisors; Jackson County Chamber of Commerce; Jackson County Solid Waste Department; Jackson County 4-H Club; Keep Mississippi Beautiful; Keesler Air Force Base; Mississippi Air National Guard CRTG-Gulfport; Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium; Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Mississippi Department of Marine Resources; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Mississippi Power; Mississippi State University Coastal Research & Extension Center; Naval Construction Battalion Center; North Gulfport Community Land Trust; Office of Congressman Gene Taylor; Renew Our Rivers, Rotary International District 6840; Sea Coast Echo; University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast Research Laboratory; and Waste Management.

Other sponsors include:

SEA TURTLE: BP; Chevron Pascagoula Refinery; High Cotton Grill; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Mississippi Department of Marine Resources; Mississippi Power

SHARK: Beverage Association of Mississippi; Cable One Advertising; Delta Sanitation of Mississippi, LLC; Mississippi Media; Ocean Conservancy; The Shed Barbeque & Blues Joint; The Sun Herald; Waste Management

DOLPHIN: Allen Beverages Inc.; Coast Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Inc.; Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Consolidated; Domino's Pizza; Fisher Safety; Gulf Coast Produce; Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Professional Division; Lamar Outdoor Advertising-Mississippi Gulf Coast; Milner Rental Center; Sara Lee; Sysco Foods

COBIA: Biloxi-D'Iberville Press; K99FM, Magic 93.7, 92.5 The Beat and News Radio 104.9; Keep Mississippi Beautiful; Knight Abbey Printing & Direct Mail; Ocean Springs Gazette; Sea Coast Echo; WLOX-TV 13

MULLET: Academy Sports + Outdoors; Ashman & Son, LLC Contractors; BB's Bar-B-Que & Snak Shak; Cabot Cheese; Coast Electric; The Dive Shop; Fayard & Sons.

The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup can be found online at www.mscoastalcleanup.org, or follow the event on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Mississippi-Coastal-Cleanup/119348171071 and Twitter at www.twitter.com/mscoastcleanup.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.ms.gov.



Photo credit: Photo courtesy of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Photo caption: Volunteer Antonia Mozader of Gulfport, fills out a data card documenting the types and quantity of trash she and her mom, Jennie Mozader, collected while cleaning the beach near Courthouse Pier during the 2009 Mississippi Coastal Cleanup. Among the finds they reported on was a live jellyfish entangled in a plastic six-pack ring, which Jennie Mozader was able to untangle and release. (Photo courtesy of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources)

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DATA CARD



Thank you for participating in Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup (ICC). The commitment you have made today is the first step to ensuring we can enjoy a cleaner ocean all year-round. The data you collect during the Cleanup is invaluable to Ocean Conservancy's effort to start a sea change every day; helping us educate public, business, and government officials about the scale and serious consequences of the global marine debris problem. Thank you. We could not do it without your help!

1. CLEANUP SITE INFORMATION

Category of Cleanup (choose one): Coastal Inland Waterway (River/Stream/Tributary/Lake)
 Type of Cleanup (choose one): Beach/Shoreline Underwater Watercraft (powerboat, sailboat, kayak or canoe)
 Location of Cleanup: State _____ Country _____
 Province _____ Zone or County Cleaned _____
 Cleanup Site Name (beach, park, etc.) _____
 Today's Date: Month: _____ Day _____ Year _____ Name of Coordinator _____
 Number of People Working on This Card _____ Distance Cleaned _____ miles or _____ km
 Number of Trash Bags Filled _____ Total Estimated Weight Collected _____ lbs. or _____ kgs.
 Estimated Time Spent on Cleanup _____

2. CONTACT INFORMATION (EACH INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBER)

1. Name _____ 3. Name _____
 Email Address _____ Email Address _____
 2. Name _____ 4. Name _____
 Email Address _____ Email Address _____

3. ENTANGLED ANIMALS

List all entangled animals found during the Cleanup. Record the type of debris they were entangled in, for example: fishing line, fishing nets, balloon string/ribbon, crab/lobster/fish traps, plastic bags, rope, six-pack rings, wire and other items (please specify).

Animal	Alive/Released or Dead	Entanglement Debris

4. WHAT WAS THE MOST PECULIAR ITEM YOU COLLECTED? _____

The following national and international organizations endorse and/or support the International Coastal Cleanup

- NOAA-Marine Debris Program
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
- IUCN-The World Conservation Union
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations' Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Please return this card to your area coordinator or mail it to:

Ocean Conservancy
 1300 19TH Street, NW
 8TH Floor
 Washington, DC 20036
www.oceanconservancy.org

OCEAN CONSERVANCY'S
 International
**Coastal
 Cleanup**

ITEMS COLLECTED

Please pick up ALL debris that you find. Only record information for the items listed below. Keep a count of your items using tick marks and enter the item totals in the box.

Example: Beverage Cans 

SHORELINE AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Debris from fast food, beach-goers, sports/games, festivals, litter from streets/storm drains, etc.

<input type="checkbox"/> Bags (Paper) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cups, Plates, Forks, Knives, Spoons _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bags (Plastic) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Wrappers/Containers _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Balloons _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pull Tabs _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-Pack Holders _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Glass Beverage Bottles _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun Shells/Wadding _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Beverage Cans _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Straws, Stirrers _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Caps, Lids _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Toys _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clothing, Shoes _____	

OCEAN/WATERWAY ACTIVITIES

Debris from recreational/commercial fishing and boat/vessel operations

<input type="checkbox"/> Bait Containers/Packaging _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Nets _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bleach/Cleaner Bottles _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Light Bulbs/Tubes _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Buoys/Floats _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil/Lube Bottles _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Crab/Lobster/Fish Traps _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pallets _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Crates _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Sheeting/Tarps _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Line _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Rope _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Lures/Light Sticks _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Strapping Bands _____

SMOKING-RELATED ACTIVITIES

<input type="checkbox"/> Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Cigarette Lighters _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Cigar Tips _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco Packaging/Wrappers _____

DUMPING ACTIVITIES

<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances (refrigerators, washers, etc.) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Batteries _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Materials _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Cars/Car Parts _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 55-Gal. Drums _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tires _____

MEDICAL/PERSONAL HYGIENE

<input type="checkbox"/> Condoms _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Diapers _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Syringes _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tampons/Tampon Applicators _____

DEBRIS ITEMS OF LOCAL CONCERN

Identify and count 3 other items found that concern you

<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____

2009 International Coastal Cleanup

TOP 10

Top 10 Debris Items Collected in MS

Item	Number
1. Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters	8,102
2. Caps/Lids	4,699
3. Beverage Bottles (Glass)	4,386
4. Bags (Plastic)	4,239
5. Beverage Cans	4,012
6. Food Wrappers/Containers	3,646
7. Beverage Bottles (Plastic)	3,002
8. Cups, Plates, Forks, Knives, Spoons	2,193
9. Building Materials	2,058
10. Straws, Stirrers	1,812

Top 10 Debris Items Dangerous to Marine Life in MS

1. Bags (Plastic)	4,239
2. Beverage Cans	4,012
3. Beverage Bottles (Plastic)	3,002
4. Fishing Line	539
5. Rope	359
6. Plastic Sheeting/Tarps	341
7. 6 Pack Holders	239
8. Fishing Lures	165
9. Fishing Nets	81
10. Crab Traps	57

Source: Ocean Conservancy



Top 10 Participating US States

1.	California	82,365
2.	Georgia	23,668
3.	Florida	22,703
4.	North Carolina	18,443
5.	New York	10,425
6.	Texas	9,374
7.	Virginia	5,641
8.	Alabama	3,473
9.	South Carolina	3,472
10.	Mississippi	3,205