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Office of Congressman Gene Taylor
Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State
Rotary International District 6840
Sea Coast Echo
Waste Management



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Gov. Barbour Declares Sept. 15 Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Day

Volunteers in Hancock, Harrison and Jackson counties are needed for the 19th annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup to be held from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 15, in conjunction with the International Coastal Cleanup—the planet’s largest volunteer cleanup effort on behalf of the marine environment. Governor Haley Barbour recently signed a proclamation in support of the annual event.

“Marsha and I appreciate the thousands of Mississippians who are willing to take the time to help clean up our beaches and shorelines during the 19th annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup on September 15,” Governor Barbour said. “It is important that we protect our coastal habitats and estuaries, which provide productive nursery areas for many marine and aquatic species. We encourage as many people as possible to join in this effort.”

The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup is a Take Pride in America event. Part of the President’s USA Freedom Corps call to service, the Take Pride in America program is a national partnership established by the U.S. Department of the Interior and is an excellent opportunity for citizens and communities to demonstrate local pride, initiative and stewardship.

Registration deadline for the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup is September 3. Register on-line at www.mscoastalcleanup.org or you can obtain a registration form and sign up to volunteer by calling 467-9048 in Hancock County; 523-4141 in Harrison County; 872-8340 in Jackson County; 217-4119 or 875-4424 in Ocean Springs; 217-1146 or 762-3391 in Gautier; 217-8312 or 762-3391 in Pascagoula; 217-9641 or 762-3391 in Moss Point; 230-4106 for the Barrier Islands (requires boat); and 475-7047 for the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (advance sign up required to reserve kayak.)

On cleanup day, zone captains will be stationed at each cleanup site in bright yellow T-shirts to direct volunteers and give them trash bags, data cards and pencils provided by Ocean Conservancy, bottled water compliments of the Beverage Association of Mississippi, and a free tote bag provided by Chevron Pascagoula Refinery (while supplies last). Following the cleanup, volunteers must present their meal ticket for a free lunch of shrimp po-boys, chips and soft drinks at Bonefish Grill at Edgewater Mall in Biloxi **between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. only** the day of the event.

During the 2006 International Coastal Cleanup, more than 358,000 volunteers in 68 countries removed 7 million pounds of debris from the ocean, rivers, lakes and waterways.

For more information visit the official Mississippi Coastal Cleanup web site at www.mscoastalcleanup.org Volunteers under age 21 must have their parents sign the registration form and fax or mail it back to participate.

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Volunteers will pick up marine debris at more than 50 designated coastal cleanup sites (zones) in all three counties and the barrier islands. Designated cleanup areas are as follows:

- **Hancock County** – Diamondhead Community, Diamondhead and Kiln Community, Hwy 603, Kiln
- **Bay St. Louis** – Bayou La Croix, Hwy 603 to Jourdan River; U.S. Hwy 90 from Blue Meadow (Main Street) to Drinkwater Drive; Beach Blvd. from the mouth of the Jourdan River to Hwy. 90; Beach Blvd. from Hwy. 90 to Bookter St.; Beach Blvd. from Bookter St. to Bay Oaks Drive; and Beach Blvd. from Bay Oaks Drive to Coleman Ave., Waveland.
- **Waveland** – Coleman Ave. to Buccaneer State Park and Beach Blvd., Buccaneer State Park to Pointset Ave., Clermont Harbor.
- **Clermont Harbor** – Beach Blvd., Pointset Ave., to the mouth of Bayou Cadet, Lakeshore.
- **Harrison County** – Biloxi Lighthouse; Debuys-Cowan-Lorraine Road; Deer Island (must have boat); D'Iberville Boat Launch; Forrest Avenue Pier; Fountain Pier; Gulfport Lake (military assigned); Gulfport-Preservation Oaks; James Hill Park; KAFB Marina (military assigned); Keegan Bayou (Back Bay) (military assigned); Kremer Marine; Long Beach Harbor west; Lower Turkey Creek; Pass Christian Harbor and Rodenberg Avenue (east of Sharkhead's).
- **Jackson County** – Bluff Creek and Pollock Ferry Landing.
- **Ocean Springs** – Front Beach; East Beach; Fort Bayou Boat Launch; Davis Bayou (GINS); Ocean Springs Fishing Bridge; Gulf Park Estates Public Pier; Belle Fontaine Beach; and Graveline Bayou Pier and Boat Launch.
- **Gautier** – Gautier City Park; Pine Island (West Pascagoula River); and Graveline Road/Shepard State Park.
- **Moss Point** – I-10 Boat Launch; The Riverfront (Moss Point); and Hwy. 63 Boat Ramp.
- **Pascagoula** – Round Island; Pascagoula Beach; I.G. Levy Park; Old Spanish Fort; and The River Park.
- **Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve** – Bayou Heron. Volunteers may bring their kayak or canoe. A limited number of kayaks are available for use. Volunteers must call and sign up in advance for a kayak.
- **Barrier Islands** (requires boat) – west end and southern tip of Cat Island, Horn, Sand, Petit Bois, East and West Ship islands. (In the event of a small craft advisory, barrier islands volunteers should report to the Gulfport—Preservation Oaks site.)

Following the cleanup, volunteers in Hancock County are invited for hotdogs and drinks starting at 11 a.m. at the foot of Garfield Ladner Memorial Pier at Coleman Avenue in Waveland, courtesy of the Office of Congressman Gene Taylor and the Bay St. Louis Rotary Club. In Jackson County there will be a picnic for volunteers at The Shed Barbeque in Ocean Springs between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. only the day of the event.

The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup is sponsored by the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force, which is made up of representatives from Allied Waste Services; Ashman & Son Construction; Bonefish Grill; Chevron Pascagoula Refinery; Domain Furnishing & Décor; Eco-Tours of South Mississippi; Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve; Gulf Islands National Seashore; Hancock County Chamber of Commerce; Hard Rock Café; Harrison County Beautification; Harrison County Sand Beach Department; Jackson County Solid Waste; Keesler Air Force Base; Mississippi Air National Guard CRTC-Gulfport; Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Mississippi Department of Marine Resources; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Mississippi State University Coastal Research & Extension Center; Naval Construction Battalion Center; Office of Congressman Gene Taylor; Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State; Rotary International District 6840; Sea Coast Echo and Waste Management.

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Co-sponsors (in-kind donations) include: Allen Beverages, Inc.; The Bay Press; Beverage Association of Mississippi; Cellular South; City of Biloxi; City of Pascagoula; Coast Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Inc.; Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Consolidated; Delta Sanitation of Mississippi, LLC; Desporte's Biloxi Paper Company; The Dive Shop; Hancock County Board of Supervisors; Jackson County Chamber of Commerce; K99FM, Magic 93.7, 92.5 Hallelujah, and News Radio 104.9; Keep Mississippi Beautiful; Kmart; Knight-Abbey Commercial Printing & Direct Mail; Lamar Advertising of South Mississippi; Macland Disposal Inc.; Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mississippi Media; Ocean Conservancy; Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce; Outback Steakhouse; The Shed Barbeque; Ship Island Excursions; The Sun Herald; WLOX-TV 13.