



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Volunteers Needed for Coastal Cleanup

~Annual cleanup will not only pick up debris, but also educate the public on litter~

PASCO COUNTY, FL --- Pasco County is partnering with Keep Pasco Beautiful to organize the annual International Coastal Cleanup. Each year, volunteers band together to pick up trash along fragile coastal waterways and in Pasco County streets. The 2016 event will be held on Saturday, September 17th from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The event attracts hundreds of thousands of volunteers from around the world who spend a few hours removing trash and debris from beaches, lakes, rivers and inland areas, while keeping track of every piece of trash they find. The Ocean Conservancy uses that information to produce an annual country-by-country, state-by-state index of the problem of marine debris. In 2015, 1,190 volunteers picked up 21.89 tons of trash throughout Pasco County.

There will be teams in locations throughout Pasco County participating. Sites include Anclote Gulf Park and Strauber Memorial Highway in Holiday, City of New Port Richey, Werner-Boyce State Park in Port Richey, Hudson Beach in Hudson, Lacochee, City of Dade City, Land O' Lakes, Wesley Chapel and Crystal Springs. Supplies such as trash bags and water are provided. T-shirts will be given while supplies last thanks to the generosity of our sponsors CH2M and Covanta Pasco.

“There are so many people in our community that are concerned about the environment,” said Kristen King, Keep Pasco Beautiful Coordinator. “They realize that the plastic bag thrown on the side of the road will eventually make it out to the Gulf, which can be deadly for marine life such as turtles and fish. Our hope is that the cleanup will not only get debris off our streets and waterways, but also educate the public on the dangers of litter and the problems it causes.”

To find out how you can volunteer with the Pasco County Coastal Cleanup call (727) 856-7252 or email kking@pascocountyfl.net.

2-2-2 COASTAL CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For more information about Keep Pasco Beautiful go to the following links:

<http://keppascobeautiful.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/KeepPascoBeautiful>

<https://twitter.com/keppascobu2ful>

For more information about the Coastal Cleanup in Pasco County go the following link:

<http://www.pascocountyfl.net>

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