

# MARTIN COUNTY Hometown News

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Annually, more than 2,000 volunteers from all over Martin County participate in the Keep Martin Beautiful International Coastal Cleanup. Keep Martin Beautiful is looking for volunteers to register for the 2011 cleanup, scheduled on Sept. 17 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Photo courtesy of  
Keep Martin Beautiful



## Annual cleanup set for Sept. 17

**For Hometown News**  
[newsfp@hometownnewsol.com](mailto:newsfp@hometownnewsol.com)

MARTIN COUNTY — It's time for Martin County residents and volunteers to step up and help keep the local shores and waterways beautiful, safe and fun for everyone during the 16th annual Keep Martin Beautiful International Coastal Cleanup.

Spearheaded globally by the Ocean Conservancy and coordinated locally by Keep Martin Beautiful, this year's cleanup will take place on Sept. 17 from 8 a.m. to noon.

The cleanup efforts are a vital part of motivating people to do something tangible in their community: remove trash and debris from beaches and waterways. More importantly, it educates people to become aware of the problems associated with litter, and challenges citizens to change the behaviors that caused the pollution in the first place.

Last year, Keep Martin Beautiful's local efforts resulted in nearly 2,100 volunteers donating a collective total of 4,000 hours and removing more than 29,000 pounds of litter and marine debris.

"The volunteers who donate their time to participate in this cleanup each are a special group of people. They are the unsung heroes of Martin County and the real stewards of our beaches and waterways," said Rhonda Irons, Keep Martin Beautiful president.

"We are always so inspired by citizens from all walks of life who come together during this once-a-year cleanup event and join forces to improve the condition of our beaches and waterways, which we all treasure."

Groups and individuals are encouraged to contact Keep Martin Beautiful to sign up in advance to clean the beach or waterway of their choice, or ask for an

assigned location.

Immediately following the cleanup, Keep Martin Beautiful, in partnership with the city of Stuart, will gather for a celebration at Flagler Park in downtown Stuart to thank volunteers, sponsors and community supporters. The event will feature food, drinks and family friendly activities.

Pre-registration is highly recommended to ensure volunteers are assigned to areas most in need.

Volunteers who do not pre-register can join KMB at Jensen Sea Turtle Beach on the morning of the cleanup.

Participants will be provided with water and cleanup supplies, as well as a complimentary T-shirt (while supplies last).

Volunteers should wear closed-toed shoes and bring work gloves.

For more information, call (772) 781-1222 or e-mail [info@keepmartinbeautiful.org](mailto:info@keepmartinbeautiful.org).