

## MacArthur Beach Clean Up A Success

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MacArthur Beach State Park is missing something. 1,000 pounds of trash!

Nearly 600 volunteers joined FOX 29 and Florida Crystals' Altogether Green team at MacArthur Beach State Park Saturday September 20th for the 2008 International Coastal Cleanup.

Park Manager Don Bergeron says today is more than just a one-day event. "This type of activity and this type of event gets people to focus on the trash that's out there on our beaches... Normally, we go to the beach, jump in the water, have a great time; pack up and go home. When you're actually out there looking for the trash, it really comes to you how much trash there is and how much is needlessly being dropped on our beaches and in the water."

Some of the items picked up included: bottle caps, plastic bottles, cigarette butts and plastic bags, which oftentimes end up in the stomachs of marine animals.

But it's not just removing the trash from our beaches says Don, "Equally, if not more importantly, [it's about] instilling [a sense of] stewardship. That feeling of stewardship and ownership in our public properties and having students come out and really get a good feel for what they can do to help our environment."

A special thanks to all the volunteers who came out Saturday and to Whole Foods for providing 1400 pieces of organic fruit!

Find out how you can become part of FOX 29 and Florida Crystals' Altogether Green team by emailing [mlefkowitz@wflx.com](mailto:mlefkowitz@wflx.com) or clicking on the 'Calendar of Events' link to find events near you!