



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Come out to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup...**

**Stuart, FL – (July 8, 2016)** — Summer is in full swing and so are the organizers of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup. “Being Green, not seeing green,” is the moto for this year’s event. This summer’s cleanup effort is conducted by the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast (MIATC) and sponsored by the Florida Inland Navigation District. “Since 2007, we have engaged more than 6,700 volunteers, who together have removed more than 66 tons of trash from the waterways of Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties,’ says Event Coordinator, April Price. “Last year we saw our largest number of volunteers (1,165), who combined, removed 6.75 tons of trash.

The counties and municipalities of the Treasure Coast will proclaim July 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, as Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup Week. This designation takes on a special meaning this year due to water quality issues. “This is not the first time we’ve dealt with algae blooms,” says Price. “I am fielding many phone calls asking if our cleanup will be canceled and the answer is “No”. We have protocols in place and will evaluate each site on Monday (July 18<sup>th</sup>), prior to the cleanup, to determine what sites we will need to abandon this year. Volunteers who registered for those sites will be directed to new locations. We will be notifying folks via phone, email and Facebook.

This year's volunteers will receive an event t-shirt. Watercraft participants will also receive a commemorative burgee. Volunteers will be recognized at a "Thank You BBQ" on a Sunday in August (the date to be announced). To register, just go to [www.TCWaterwayCleanup.com](http://www.TCWaterwayCleanup.com) or show up at one of our designated sites on the day of the cleanup. The event runs from 8:00am-12:30pm.

"There are several coastal cleanups that take place throughout the Treasure Coast which are vital to the health of our beaches and shore line. However, this cleanup specifically concentrates on the waterways, spoil islands and area canals," says Steve Haigis, Marina Manager of Loggerhead Marina and past president MIATC. "This is our chance to involve the entire Treasure Coast community in an industry that is vital to our economic well-being. We get to give back and educate folks on the importance of keeping our waterways clean."

For more information regarding our sponsors, or to view photos, visit the web site at [www.tcwaterwaycleanup.com](http://www.tcwaterwaycleanup.com) or contact April Price, (772) 285-1646.

***The Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (MIATC) is a not-for-profit trade association representing recreational marine businesses in Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River and Okeechobee counties. MIATC is dedicated to the promotion of pleasure boating and s related industries.***