



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Jump Start for the 4th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup**

**Stuart, FL – (February 22, 2011)** — The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup is scheduled for July 23, 2011, and is conducted by the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast (MIATC). The event has grown in popularity since its inception as local folks learn there is a real need to keep our waterways clean. This year thanks to Jensen Beach resident Bob Ditmar and his friends. Together they removed more than 600 pounds of trash from the Indian River Lagoon near Walton Road. The effort is off to a great start.

Ditmar fishes regularly in the area and had been bothered by the large volume of trash he found. When he stopped by the MIATC booth at the Port Salerno Seafood Festival he immediately noticed the banner promoting this year's cleanup dates and wanted to participate. Unfortunately Bob is one of our many seasonal residents and isn't here in July.

April Price who coordinates the cleanup effort for MIATC worked with Ditmar and his dedicated friends to put a mini cleanup together and accomplished quite a bit on a beautiful spring morning last week. "I feel we made a difference," said Ditmar. "We fanned out to the north and south of the waters edge and filled 10 large trash bags, found a lot of metal, an air conditioning unit, wood, PVC, signs, shoes, many beer bottles and more. Someone with a pick up truck stopped and picked up all of the metal for scrap"

Ditmar, his son Doug Ditmar, Carlos Sciscente, Clarence Mason and Phil Banaschek finished the morning knowing that they made a difference. “We had a lot more success collecting trash than we did fishing today,” said Mason.

For more information on how you can be a part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup, please contact April Price, (772) 285-1646, [info@tcwaterwaycleanup.com](mailto:info@tcwaterwaycleanup.com) or visit our web site at [www.tcwaterwaycleanup.com](http://www.tcwaterwaycleanup.com).

*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, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. MIATC is dedicated to the promotion of pleasure boating and s related industries.*