

City of Port St Lucie 121 SW Port St Lucie Blvd. Port St Lucie, FL 34984-5099

RE: Support request 16th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup

Tom Whittington President

Dear Council Members,

Robert MacKeen Vice President

Bruce Grout

Secretary

Sean Embersold

Dan Romence Director

Don Green Director

Jill Marasa *Director* 

Thomas O'Brien Director

Butch Olsen Director

Chris Dempsey Immediate Past Pres.

Janet Zimmerman Senior Director

John Yudin Senior Director

Justin Beard
Director of Operations

On Saturday, July 22, 2023, the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast in conjunction with the Florida Inland Navigation District will conduct the 16th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup. We will be cleaning up the waterways of Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties. We have 25 designated sites throughout the three counties that will serve as registration and disposal sites for the volunteers to work out of. Also, we have recruited numerous waterfront homeowner associations to cleanup up their own waterfront.

We are once again requesting additional support from the city to enhance the efforts. Since 2009, the city has proclaimed the 4<sup>th</sup> week in July as Waterway Cleanup Week. Beginning in 2018, we worked closely with Keep Port Saint Lucie Beautiful, who's coordinated assistance with Public Works, Parks & Recreation, and the Marine Unit of the Port Saint Lucie Police Department. These efforts have been beneficial to the residents and businesses of Pt. St. Lucie.

Our volunteers have removed more than 99.25 tons of trash from our waterways since 2008. In 2022, we collected 3.90 tons of trash from approximately 125 miles of waterways. In Port Saint Lucie, 89 volunteers (working on their own & self-reporting) removed .51 tons of trash. This is up from the 49 volunteers in 2021, who worked from the C24 Canal Boat Ramp and Veteran's Memorial Park Boat Ramp to remove .49 tons of trash. We are working in the right direction to reclaim our volunteer numbers prior to Covid.

We hope that you continue to support this cleanup effort and are requesting official sponsorship. Included you will find the 2023 sponsorship opportunities. Although cash sponsor are both needed and appreciated here are a few areas that would be valuable to the event:

- Banners at the City banner locations (we have budgeted to increase the number of banners so we can fill all of the new locations)
- Promote through the City Parks and Recreation via calendars, newsletters, electronic signage, etc.
- PSA's on PSL TV
- Encourage employees to participate either event day or during our weeklong effort that begins on Saturday, July 16 and ends on Sunday, July 24<sup>th.</sup>

We welcome any ideas that your team has and look forward to another successful cleanup year. Please call or email with any questions.

Sincerely,

April Price, Event Coordinator

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16th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup

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