

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trash Travels – Join Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful for the 2018 International Coastal Cleanup to Keep Our Waterways Clean



(August 1, 2018) – Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful invites Pennsylvania residents, civic organizations and businesses to coordinate a cleanup or join an existing cleanup, as part of the 2018 International Coastal Cleanup (ICC).

Anyone who enjoys Pennsylvania's waterways recreationally or cares about our local ecology can and should participate in this year's International Coastal Cleanup. Be part of the largest volunteer effort to improve the health of our oceans and [register your event online](#). Alternately, visit Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's [Calendar of Events](#) and join a cleanup near you. All cleanup sites are eligible since we all live in a watershed and all waterways flow into our coastal waters. International Coastal Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday, September 19, however, **ICC events can be held from September 1st through October 31st**. Gloves and bags are available for registered events while supplies last.



The Ocean Conservancy's annual International Coastal Cleanup engages hundreds of thousands of volunteers from around the world to remove millions of pounds of plastics and debris from beaches, lakes and waterways. This event has grown to include participation by all 50 states and U.S. territories and 90 countries with the number growing each year. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is proud to coordinate this effort in Pennsylvania. **In 2017, nearly 14,000 volunteers from 35 counties canvassed their communities to remove 861,655 pounds of trash and debris from Pennsylvania's lands, waterways and coastal regions during the International Coastal Cleanup event.**

"Our goal this year is to increase participation throughout the state. We urge organizations, civic groups, families and individuals to take action and prevent trash from entering our waterways. Help us preserve and restore the quality of our water for the health of humans, wildlife and local economies," stated Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

Cleanup tools and resources to help organize a safe and successful cleanup can be found [here](#).

For questions regarding the International Coastal Cleanup, please contact Michelle Dunn, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's International Coastal Cleanup Coordinator, at 1-877-772-3673 Ext. 113 or mdunn@keepapbeautiful.org.

About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to make our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 133 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit www.keeppabeautiful.org.

About International Coastal Cleanup

The International Coast Cleanup began in 1985 as an environmental study undertaken on the behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Toxic Substances. The first volunteer-driven Cleanup occurred in 1986 at South Padre Island, Texas. International Coastal Cleanup is one of the largest international volunteer events. The Cleanup gives citizens around the world the opportunity to clean up their local waterways and to be a part of a large, organized event. For more information visit <http://www.oceanconservancy.org/>. ###