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Still Time to Join the International Coastal Cleanup

(October 12, 2017) – Sign up to participate in the International Coastal Cleanup, the world's largest volunteer effort aimed at improving the health of our oceans. This global initiative aims to prevent trash from entering our waterways and runs through October 31. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful coordinates the effort in Pennsylvania.

"If you are looking to make a difference in your community this fall, join the International Coastal Cleanup! Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and the Ocean Conservancy depend on individuals, families, friends, civic groups, organizations and businesses who care about our natural resources to collect and document the trash they pick up. The documented trash helps provide insight into other ways to help tackle the enormous worldwide problem of ocean litter," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "We're proud to be a part of this global movement and we encourage you to join us."

Last year, the organization reported that 14,000 volunteers from 39 counties removed over 864,000 pounds of trash and debris from Pennsylvania's lands, waterways and coastal regions during the International Coastal Cleanup event.

The International Coastal Cleanup, a program of the Ocean Conservancy, runs annually from September 1 through October 31. Register your event with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and receive free gloves and bags, while supplies last. Any cleanup site, land or water, is eligible since we all live in a watershed and all waterways flow into our coastal waters. Contact Michelle Dunn at 1-877-772-3673 Ext. 113 or mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org. Cleanup tools and resources to help organize a safe and successful cleanup can be found <u>here</u>.

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 126 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit <u>www.keeppabeautiful.org</u>.