



# MISSISSIPPI COASTAL CLEANUP PROGRAM

2022 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Hi there! Welcome to the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program Seasonal Newsletter. The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program is an educational program that promotes the conservation of our local marine environment by influencing active stewardship within our community. This program is housed at the Mississippi State University's Coastal Research and Extension Center in Biloxi, MS. Check out what we've been up to!

## Monthly Cleanups

Our cleanups aren't exclusive to just beaches - we venture into many areas on the coast including waterfront parks and recreational areas! For the March Monthly Cleanup, volunteers spent their Saturday morning picking up trash from Point Park in Pascagoula, removing over **155 pounds of trash**. In April, for the *Earth Day Celebration Cleanup* at the I.G. Levy Memorial Park, volunteers removed **1,396 pieces** of debris. Participants also receive promo cards donated by Lucy's in Biloxi.

In May, 30 volunteers including a group from Center Point Energy took to Pascagoula Beach to remove over 100 pounds of trash consisting mostly of **single-use plastic**.



### 2022 MONTHLY CLEANUPS

## Oh DEER-BRIS!

Despite the uncertain rain forecast, 80 volunteers took part in the 2022 Deer Island Cleanup on Saturday, April 2nd. Volunteers were shuttled to the island via boat where they picked up trash, recycled, removed debris, recorded data, and discarded everything into a dumpster, kindly provided by Waste Management, on the mainland. During the event's brief duration, **1,505 pounds** were removed and **~80 bags** of trash were collected.



## TOP TRASH ITEMS INCLUDED:

854 foam pieces 

 547 cigarette butts

441 plastic beverage bottles 

 333 food wrappers

259 bottle caps 



This event was made possible by the partnership with the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and the Osprey Initiative.





## Have your OWN cleanup!

Can't make it to one of our scheduled events? The MSCCP can provide groups with guidance and all the supplies they need to perform their very own cleanup. Gather some friends, family, classmates, coworkers, etc., and spend a morning, afternoon, or beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast sunset removing trash from the local environment. Our only requirement - volunteers must collect data! We want to know how much and what types of trash you are collecting. It's super simple and detailed on our website.

Supplies provided include gloves, trash bags, trash grabbers, buckets, a first aid kit, hand sanitizer, and data collection materials.

REQUEST A BIN



Folks from **The Institute for Marine Mammal Studies** and **MSU College of Veterinary Medicine** partnered with the MSCCP to host an Earth Day Beach Cleanup at Jones Park where 49 volunteers collected **186 pounds of trash!**



In efforts to give back to the community and support team building, folks with **Biloxi Contact Center of Equity Lifestyle Properties** did a cleanup at Hiller Park and at the beach near the Biloxi Lighthouse. In total, they removed over **120 pounds of trash!**



A group of Air Force members from **Keesler Air Force Base** spent a morning at Biloxi Beach where they picked up over **60 pounds of trash** consisting mostly of single-use plastic. They also saw a very unique beach-goer!





## Join us!

Here are a few of our upcoming events. All events have an online registration volunteers must fill out prior to attending.

**World Ocean Day Beach Cleanup**  
@ Ken Combs Pier in Gulfport, MS

**June Monthly Cleanup**  
@ Biloxi Beach Boardwalk in Biloxi, MS

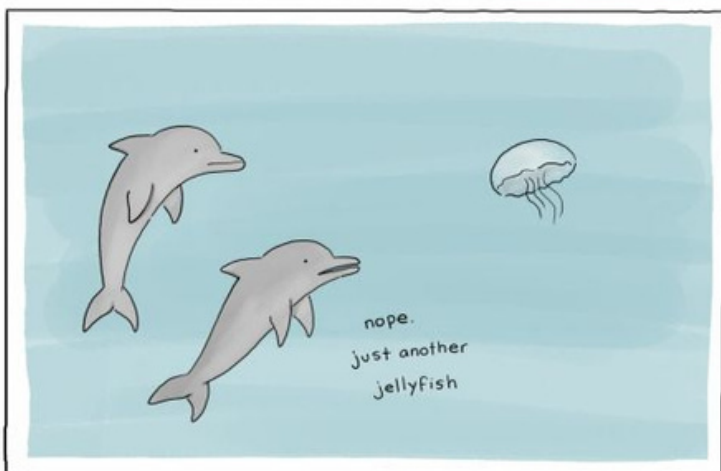
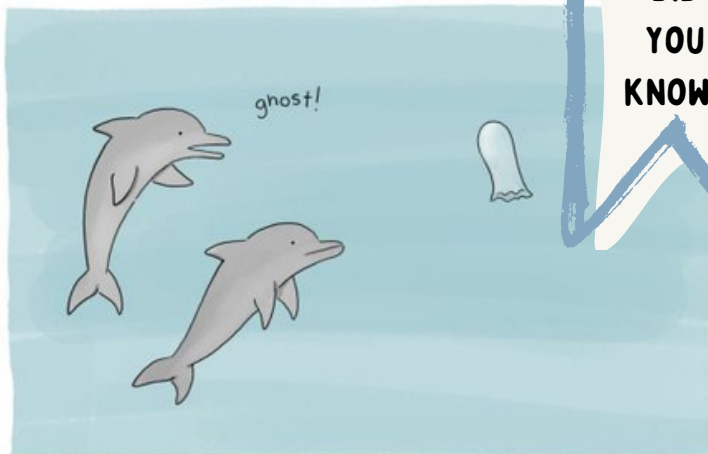
**Star-Spangled Cleanup**  
@ multiple cleanup sites across the MS coast.



## EVENT CALENDAR

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Plastic grocery bags in the ocean get mistaken for food and eaten by animals such as sea turtles, dolphins, whales, and seabirds. They even mischievously resemble jellyfish...



lizclimo.tumblr.com

Thank you for checking out our first newsletter. We will aim to make these seasonally occurring to keep y'all in the loop with MSCCP happenings. Feel free to check out our website and Facebook page for all future event information.

**Need more for your litter prevention fix?**  
Check out these other programs!

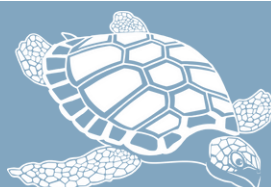


**See you at the beach!**

**Our 2022 Top Sponsors:**



**2021 MSCCP  
SUMMARY REPORT**



FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



[www.mscoastalcleanup.org](http://www.mscoastalcleanup.org)