



Ocean Watch Foundation, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Making a Clean Sweep – Ocean Watch Foundation Holds It's 20th Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup

FORT LAUDERDALE – For the past 20 years, in June, hundreds of scuba divers and snorkelers, dozens of private boaters and beach walkers organize to collect thousands of pounds of trash from our fragile reef system and from our beautiful beaches.

On **Saturday, June 14th**, Ocean Watch Foundation's 2008 Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup will be held from 9 am to 12 pm. With the cooperation of many ocean side cities in Broward county, corporate sponsors and many volunteer groups, the 20th Annual Reef Sweep is shaping up to be our biggest and best event ever. In conjunction with the International Year of the Reef (www.iyor.org), we hope to bring awareness to the protection of our local coral reefs.

Beach walkers have lots of choices of locations – Deerfield Beach, Pompano Beach, Birch State and John U. Lloyd Parks, Ft. Lauderdale, North Beach Park at Sheridan St. in Hollywood and Hollywood Beach at the Bandshell. (No pre-registration needed, just show up and help clean our beaches – rain or shine.)

Clean-up dives are planned for two pier locations - Deerfield Beach Pier and Pompano Beach Pier. (Divers need to be certified and have their c-cards with them when checking in for dive sites.)

The highlight of the event is always the fun-filled post Reef Sweep party, where everyone will enjoy food, drinks and prizes.

Past sponsors of this event have included: Broward County Department of Planning & Environmental Protection, Marine Industries Association of South Florida and Broward Beautiful.

Ocean Watch Foundation is a leading non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of the coral reef ecosystems in South Florida and is celebrating 20 years of successful programs.

We welcome the participation of all our sponsors, civic organizations, school groups, environmentally concerned individuals, and the entire Broward Community to join us on Saturday, June 14th, 2008.

Please contact the organization via email at info@oceanwatch.org. Visit us on the web at: www.oceanwatch.org

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