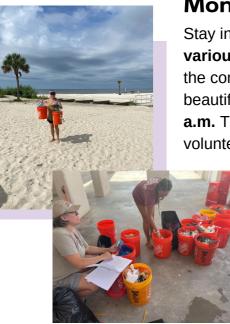
# MISSISSIPPI COASTAL

#### 2023 NEW YEAR NEWSLETTER

Hi there! Welcome to the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program Seasonal Newsletter. The Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program (MSCCP) 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**

Stay involved year-round by participating in a monthly cleanup! We have selected **various locations** within the coastal counties for a cleanup each month to keep the community engaged in preserving the environment to keep it healthy and beautiful. Each Monthly Cleanup takes place on a **Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.** There will be a Site Captain at the location to lead the event assisting volunteers during the event.

**Plastic Free Gulf Coast** performs brand audits on the plastic trash we collect at each cleanup. A **brand audit** involves recording data on the plastic collected to help identify the companies responsible for plastic pollution.



MONTHLY CLEANUP INFO

## 2022 at a glance!

We know litter and marine debris are a problem, and the MSCCP works to provide stewardship opportunities throughout the year in efforts to remove debris from our local environment and waterways. In coordination with over **50 actionable efforts** involving litter removal and tactical cleanups, **2,337 volunteers filled 856 bags** of trash and debris removing over **113,336 pieces** of trash and debris!

2022 TOP ITEMS

Check out the 2022 Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Annual Summary for more details on what our programs, such as the Derelict Trap Reward Program, **Mississippi Inland Cleanup Program**, and SWAPS accomplished!

#### 2022 ANNUAL SUMMARY

#### Events in 2023!

Check out the event calendar and join us at a location near you! Each cleanup event has a Site Captain present to provide cleanup supplies and guidance throughout the event. Each event has a pre-registration form on our website. Volunteers are highly encouraged to complete the online registration for the event of interest - this helps the cleanup team estimate how many supplies to pack and puts volunteers in direct contact with the event coordinator for details and updates!

\*\* Please note that most events have a backup date in the case of cancellation due to weather.

**EVENT CALENDAR** 





Become a MSCCP Top Sponsors!



Interesting in being a sponsor? Checkout our website and click the "Donate" tab for more information!

DID YOU KNOW?

See you at the beach!

Marine debris comes in many forms, ranging from small plastic cigarette butts to 4,000pound derelict fishing nets. Plastic bags, glass, metal, foamed plastic, tires, derelict fishing gear, and abandoned vessels are all examples of debris that often ends up in our waterways.

**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**. *Our only requirement - volunteers* <u>must collect data!</u> We do this at each of our events so we want to know how much and what types of trash you are picking up. Supplies provided include gloves, trash bags, trash grabbers, buckets, a first aid kit, hand sanitizer, and data collection materials.

**REQUEST A BIN** 









