

You *can* make a difference – as a Coastal Cleanup volunteer ... and it's easy!

Thanks for signing up for the Delaware Coastal Cleanup! Last year, more than 2,500 volunteers gathered more than 9 tons of trash from Delaware's beaches and waterways. This year, you'll be part of that effort, and we hope you'll enjoy the day!

Here's what you can expect - and what you'll need to do:

ON CLEANUP DAY:

- Dress for the weather and pack beverages and snacks.
- Arrive at your site at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 and sign in at the start point.
- Pick up gloves, a data card, pencils and trash bags from your site captain.
- Head out in groups of three or four (or as a family).
- One person keeps the data card and the others carry trash bags.

FOR CARD KEEPERS:

- Please take time to fill out your data card, including group name/volunteer names and number of volunteers, estimated amount of trash and number of bags.
- Keep a running count of trash items and add up totals on the data card.

FOR THOSE COLLECTING TRASH:

- Wear gloves to collect debris, and be careful with glass or other sharp objects.
- Put clean (not full of sand or mud) glass, plastic and aluminum beverage containers in the tan trash bags for recycling. Put all other trash in the black trash bags.
- If you find syringes, medical waste or other potentially hazardous materials, DO NOT HANDLE. Mark the spot and notify your site captain immediately.
- Monitor your children's finds.
- Don't lift anything heavy.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE:

- Notify your site captain of any stranded, injured or entangled animals.
- Avoid stepping on dune plants and beach grasses.

WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED:

- Place the black bags and the tan recycling bags in separate piles at the designated trash pick-up point for your site. Place any larger, unbagged items in a pile.
- Return all supplies and data cards to your site captain at the end of the Cleanup.
- Pick up your 2011 Coastal Cleanup t-shirt.
- Feel good about making a difference – and come back next year!