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MISSION OF THE ICC

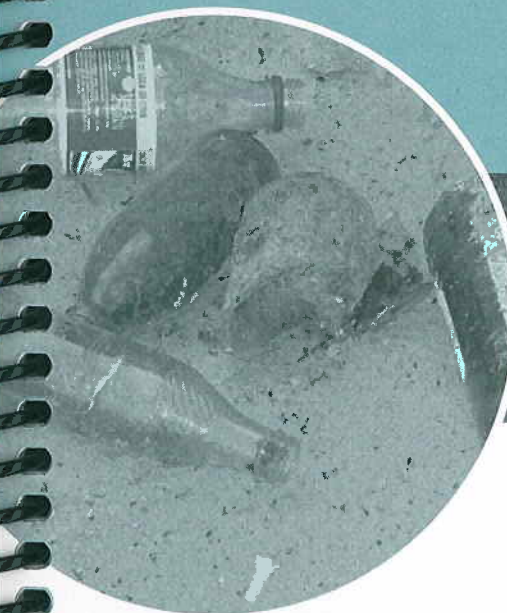
The International Coastal Cleanup engages people to remove trash and debris from the world's beaches and waterways, to identify the sources of debris, and to change the behaviors that cause pollution.

Cover Photo: Lloyd DeGrane, Alliance for the Great Lakes

CONTENTS

2005 International Coastal Cleanup

1	Introduction
3	Highlights in the Fight Against Marine Debris: Historical Timeline
11	Sponsor Spotlight- The Coca-Cola Company
14	20 Years of the ICC
18	Country Participation Map
21	2005 ICC Facts + Figures
29	Raw Data
29	Appendix I: International Raw Data
36	Appendix II: U.S. Raw Data
43	2005 ICC Coordinators and Sponsors
43	International ICC Coordinators
45	U.S. ICC Coordinators
47	International ICC Sponsors
49	U.S. ICC Sponsors



25TH ANNIVERSARY
International
**Coastal
Cleanup**
The Ocean Conservancy

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FROM THE PRESIDENT 2005 International Coastal Cleanup Report

Not too long ago, several environmental leaders, the Governor of Hawaii, my wife and I were guests of President George W. Bush at a White House screening of, "Voyage to Kure," the PBS documentary about Jean-Michel Cousteau's expedition to the remote atoll of Kure at the westernmost point of the Hawaiian Islands archipelago. There, among the pristine coral reefs and uninhabited islands—thousands of miles from the nearest human civilization—what would you suppose Cousteau found? Trash. He found trash.

Sitting there in the White House, fully prepared for a glorious portrait of one of the most precious, untouched ecological treasures left on earth, I was shocked to see the unmistakable stain of human carelessness. It was, for me, a remarkable moment of clarity; proof that everything we do, wherever we are, has impact upon our oceans, and not just close to home. The things we discard today can be borne by the wind and the seas to affect ecosystems far, far way.

That's why The Ocean Conservancy is so committed to the problem of ocean debris. It's why we sponsor the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) event each year, a day of volunteer effort on the third Saturday of every September to clear trash and educate people about how they can reduce our impact on the coasts.

In 2005, The Ocean Conservancy celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the ICC. 20 years! It sounds amazing—and it is. The Ocean Conservancy—and I personally—would like to send a heartfelt message of thanks and gratitude to the legions of enthusiastic volunteers who make the ICC such a highlight for us each year. We could not do it without your commitment and hard work. Surely, our volunteers made the 2005 ICC event—and every ICC event for that matter—a success, and we thank them for a job well done!

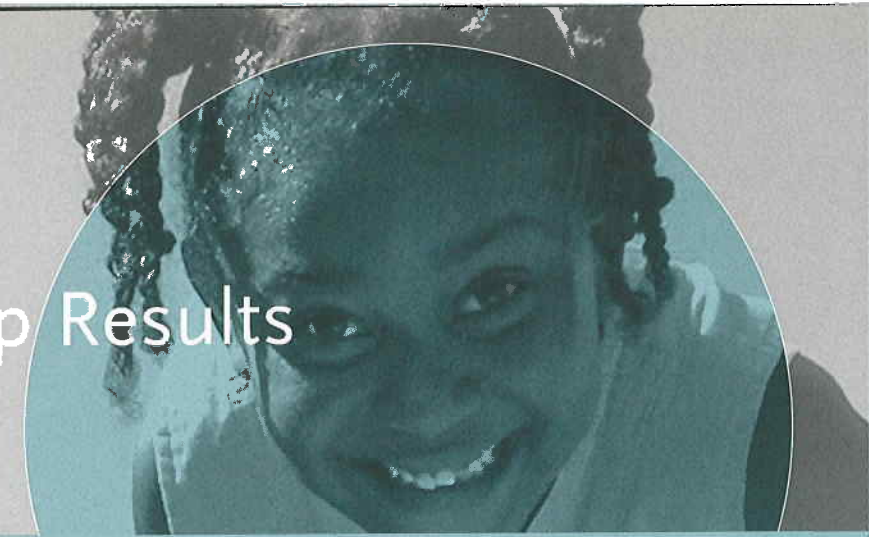
Though just a single day each year, the ICC event could not happen without extensive planning and preparations that begin months in advance of—and linger far past—the third Saturday in September. Often, the day after one cleanup is done we're busy with post-cleanup tasks—cataloging, counting, and summarizing the debris we find—that take us into the new year. Not long after that, coordinators must begin gearing up for the next ICC event. The minutiae fall to our tireless coordinators: the hard work of securing local sponsors and organizing the marine debris data, planning cleanup areas and publicizing our efforts. We thank them most sincerely for their hard work, dedication, and willingness to volunteer valuable time to this important cause. You will find a complete list of the 2005 coordinators on pages 43-47.

Then, of course, special thanks must go to our sponsors for their generous financial support, employee volunteer participation, and in-kind donations. Their kind gifts of supplies, food, beverages, services, and more keep our volunteers motivated and energized for the difficult work of coastal cleanup. We salute our sponsors' contributions and commitment to a cleaner marine environment. You can find a complete list of International and U.S. State sponsors on pages 47-50.

To all who participated in the 20th Anniversary International Coastal Cleanup, we at The Ocean Conservancy send a humble and resounding, "Thank you." We hope to see you during the 21st International Coastal Cleanup.

Until then,
Roger Rufe, President
The Ocean Conservancy

Cleanup Results



INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP REPORT / 2005

YOU ARE
HERE

6⁺ million volunteers
100⁺ million pounds
170,000⁺ miles

YEARS OF CLEANER COASTS

20⁰⁵ International Coastal Cleanup

In 1986, Linda Maraniss, a staff member of The Ocean Conservancy—then known as the Center for Environmental Education—witnessed the trash she found littering the shores of South Padre Island, Texas and was appalled. So, she did what any enterprising conservationist would do: she took matters into her own hands and organized a beach cleanup.

Enlisting the support of the Texas General Land Office, Linda recruited 2,800 fellow Texans to join her that first year. In just three hours, she and her determined army cleared 124 tons of trash from 122 miles of Texas coastline. If you're counting, that's almost 90 pounds per person.

Thus, The Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup was born.

In 2005, The Ocean Conservancy celebrated its 20th ICC. The event just keeps on getting better each year, reaching more states, more countries, more people and more coastal miles than ever. In 2006, over 450,000 citizens from almost 100 countries will participate in the Cleanup. They will pick up nearly 8 million pounds of debris from thousands of miles of shoreline and waterways.

Just what has 20 years of the International Coastal Cleanup meant to our coasts? Well, take a look ...

The **6 million volunteers** who have participated...

- > Could fill Madison Square Garden 300 times.
- > Would be the world's 105th most populous nation—larger than 134 other countries.
- > Are more than the populations of Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming and the District of Columbia...combined.

The **100 million pounds** of trash removed weigh more than...

- > 400 blue whales, the largest mammal in the world.
- > 25,000 NASCAR stock cars—and their drivers.
- > Two World War II aircraft carriers.

The **170,000 miles** of cleaner shorelines are...

- > Enough to circle the earth...7 times.
- > Three times the total mileage of the U.S. interstate highway system.
- > Enough to drive from Miami to Anchorage and back...17 times.

YOU ARE
HERE



