



# TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **420 volunteers a record for Adopt-A-Beach Winter Cleanup**

*Cold front holds off for a beautiful day to haul 3 tons of trash off the beach*

AUSTIN — A record total of 420 volunteers hauled more than three tons of trash off Coastal Bend beaches Saturday, making the Fifth Annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Winter Cleanup a big success. Dedicated volunteers picked up 6,187 pounds of litter from 21 miles of area beaches.

The 5th Annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Winter Cleanup took place at three sites in the Coastal Bend area. Sites participating in this year's event were Aransas Pass – Redfish Bay, Corpus Christi Beach at the Texas State Aquarium, and at the Padre Island National Seashore.

A cold front that threatened to put a damper on turnout held off until the afternoon. An intermittent rain fell, but the volunteers just kept coming, more than doubling the usual turnout for this cleanup.

Some of the more unusual items found this year were one \$20 bill, two \$5 bills, two live snakes and a bottle of apple juice from China.

The Winter Texan Beach Cleanup is one of three all-volunteer seasonal cleanups coordinated through the Adopt-A-Beach Program of the Texas General Land Office. The next cleanup will be the Spring Adopt-A-Beach effort set for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Texas beaches receive large amounts of marine debris due to a convergence of currents in the Gulf of Mexico. Since 1986, more than 375,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,100 tons of this debris, some of it originating as far away as Greece. Volunteers record data on the trash to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline.

For additional information on the Winter Texan Beach Cleanup and the Adopt-A-Beach Program, visit [www.texasadoptabeach.org](http://www.texasadoptabeach.org), or contact the GLO at 1-877-TXCOAST.

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