



# TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

## JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **23<sup>rd</sup> Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup Sept. 26**

*Volunteers can now register online, show their pride with Adopt-A-Beach license plates*

AUSTIN — The 23<sup>rd</sup> Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup will be held Saturday, Sept. 26 at 11 sites in the Coastal Bend.

“It’s time to mobilize the Adopt-A-Beach troops and target trash on Texas beaches,” said Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office. “With nearly 10,000 volunteers, the Adopt-A-Beach army is a force to be reckoned with in the fight to keep our beaches clean.”

Patterson urged Adopt-A-Beach volunteers to wear shoes, a hat and sunscreen and be ready to spend the day with other Texans who love the beach. Volunteers will be given data cards, gloves, pencils and trash bags. Most sites along the coast conclude the day’s cleanup with cold drinks, hot food and lots of fun.

Volunteers can just show up and register at 10 of the 11 sites between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. on September 26. Volunteers must pre-register for the St. Jo Island location in advance, as reservations are required due to limited access. Volunteers for St. Jo Island will check in on September 26 at 8 a.m. at Fisherman’s Wharf, 900 Tarpon St., in Port Aransas.

Volunteers may also register on-line at [www.TexasAdoptABeach.org](http://www.TexasAdoptABeach.org) or become a fan of the Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program on Facebook. Texans who can’t make it to the beach but still want to support the volunteer effort can make a tax-deductible donation online at [TexasAdoptABeach.org](http://TexasAdoptABeach.org). Sponsorship levels range from \$25 to \$25,000.

When Adopt-A-Beach volunteers first started their work in 1986, most of the trash on Texas beaches came from offshore vessels that dumped it overboard. Data collected by Adopt-A-Beach volunteers helped pass an international shipping treaty that banned dumping trash into the sea.

Now, about 70 percent of the trash on Texas beaches is left behind by careless beachgoers. But that trash isn’t being left behind by anyone who’s ever spent a day picking up other people’s beer cans, cigarette butts and used diapers off the beach, Patterson said.

— more —

True lovers of Texas beaches can show their pride by showing up at the Fall Cleanup with their very own Adopt-A-Beach license plates, which feature an adorable surfer tot with his board on a litter-free Texas beach.

The Adopt-A-Beach license plate costs just \$30 in addition to regular vehicle fees, with \$22 used to support the Texas coast. For an extra \$40 you can even personalize your Adopt-A-Beach plates. The cost of license plates is considered a tax-deductible donation. To order your plate today, go to Texas Online at [www.texasonline.com](http://www.texasonline.com) or contact your local tax office.

The success of the Adopt-A-Beach Program is made possible not only by the generous efforts of tens of thousands of volunteers, but through the generous donations of community leaders and sponsors statewide. Shell Oil Company is the lead cleanup sponsor for 2009. Other statewide sponsors are the Newfield Foundation, the Ocean Conservancy, Flint Hills Resources Community Action Council, Halliburton and Johnson Controls.

Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup check-in sites for the Coastal Bend are:

- **Rockport—Aransas County**  
Check-in: Rockport Beach Park beachfront pavilion  
Contact: Tom Staley, 361-729-2213, ext. 226; [tom.staley@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:tom.staley@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Aransas Pass/Redfish Bay—Nueces County**  
Check-in: Lighthouse Lakes Park, 4 miles east of Aransas Pass on Highway 361  
Contact: Ismael “Smiley” Nava, 361-882-3439; [aransaspass@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:aransaspass@texasadoptabeach.org) or Richard Gonzales, 361-779-7351; [richard.Gonzales@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:richard.Gonzales@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Sunset Lakes Park-San Patricio County**  
Check-in: Sunset Lakes Park on Highway 181  
Contact: Stacy Stork, 361-777-0461; [stacy.stork@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:stacy.stork@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **St. Jo Island/Port Aransas - Nueces County**  
Check-in: 8:00 a.m. – Fisherman’s Wharf, 900 Tarpon St.  
Contact: Deno Fabrie, 361-749-0256; [deno.fabrie@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:deno.fabrie@texasadoptabeach.org)  
\*\*\*Limited access – reservations required\*\*\*
- **Port Aransas—Nueces County**  
Check-in: Avenue G at the beach  
Contact: Deno Fabrie, 361-749-0256; [deno.fabrie@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:deno.fabrie@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Mustang Island State Park, Corpus Christi—Nueces County**  
Check-in: 17047 State Highway 361  
Contact: Paul Eubank, 361-749-5246; [paul.eubank@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:paul.eubank@texasadoptabeach.org)

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- **Corpus Christi Beach—Nueces County**  
Check-in: Texas State Aquarium, 2710 North Shoreline Blvd.  
Contact: Kristin Ralls, 361-881-1321; [kristin.ralls@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:kristin.ralls@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Cole Park (Kids Place), Corpus Christi—Nueces County**  
Check-in: 1526 Ocean Drive  
Contact: Daiquiri Richard, 361-855-2888; [daiquiri.richard@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:daiquiri.richard@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **North Padre Island, Corpus Christi—Kleberg County**  
Check-in: Padre Balli Park Office, 15820 Park Road 22  
Contact: Jim Needham, 361-825-2708; [james.needham@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:james.needham@texasadoptabeach.org) or Todd Dwyer, 361-853-9877; [todd.dwyer@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:todd.dwyer@texasadoptabeach.org) or Ilene Jantz, 361-563-4119; [ilene.jantz@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:ilene.jantz@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Padre Island National Seashore—Kleberg County**  
Check-in: Malaquite Visitor Center, 20420 Park Road 22  
Contact: William “Buzz” Botts, 361-949-8068; [buzz.botts@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:buzz.botts@texasadoptabeach.org)
- **Baffin Bay—Kleberg County**  
Check-in: Kaufer-Hubert Park, FM 628  
Contact: Susan Ivy, 361-595-8591; [susan.ivy@texasadoptabeach.org](mailto:susan.ivy@texasadoptabeach.org)

**DON'T FORGET!**

- Pick a site and call the site coordinator or register online at [www.texasadoptabeach.org](http://www.texasadoptabeach.org).
- Pre-register large groups with the site coordinator or online on or before Wednesday, September 23rd.
- Wear sunscreen, shoes, sunglasses and a hat.
- Bring plenty of drinking water.
- Check in by 9 a.m.
- Do not disturb the habitat of nesting shorebirds.
- For your safety, stay off the dunes.
- We'll clean rain or shine!

**WHO:** About 10,000 Texans who care about Texas beaches  
**WHAT:** 23<sup>rd</sup> Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup  
**WHERE:** 11 sites in the Coastal Bend  
**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 26  
**WHY:** To keep Texas beaches clean and healthy

Local news media sponsors for the cleanup include the following Corpus Christi stations: KRIS-TV Channel 6 NBC, KDF-TV Channel 47 Fox, The CW South Texas, KORO-TV Channel 28 Univision, KCRP-TV Channel 41 Telefutera, and Clear Channel Radio stations KKTX-AM, KNCN-FM, KMXR-FM, KRYS-FM, KUNO-AM and KSAB-FM.

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