

# Teaming Up and Cleaning Up to Help Save Our Florida Beaches

*Broward School and Wellington Renewable Energy Firm Join Forces*

WELLINGTON, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, September 27, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The International Coastal Cleanup™(ICC) is the world's largest annual volunteer effort to clean up the marine environment. Though Saturday, September 18th was the designated day for ICC for 2021, in Palm Beach and surrounding Florida counties, many clean-up events are happening through fall.

For the past 36 years, The Ocean Conservancy has sponsored this annual event where volunteers from over 100 countries simultaneously visit local beaches and waterways to rid them of garbage and show their commitment to conservation. New River Middle School (NRMS) students, faculty, and family have participated in ICC for over ten years. Their 2021 site was again at Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park, located in Dania Beach off Florida State Road A1A.



Over 499 students, parents, friends, and family volunteers and removed 397.8 pounds of trash.

Mindy Wessinger, NRMS principal, said the park always provides a pavilion free of charge to the school because it provides so many volunteers. "We use ICC Day as our kick-off event to create excitement around our school-wide project 'Mission Possible/Marine Plastics,'" she says.

Wessinger said that Wellington-based Solarize USA's sponsorship helped make this year's event COVID safe by providing families boxed lunches from a local deli rather than hosting the traditional BBQ lunch cooked by school staff. The renewable energy consulting firm founded by Lucho Gomez safely served over 499 students, parents, friends, and family volunteers and removed 397.8 pounds of trash.

"We work to have our students become responsible stewards of the marine environment.

Participating in these types of events as a school family provides students with firsthand knowledge of the magnitude of the problem, as well as how to become part of the solution," says Wessinger, adding that Solarize USA has always been a great advocate and supporter of NRMS.

Without community partners like Solarize USA, she says events like this would not be possible. Gomez says anytime kids get out in nature and see how to be compassionate stewards, it's a win.

"We loved collaborating with Mindy, Katie, and the rest of the team at New River and look forward to many more opportunities! I hope we can continue fostering a community of caring and environmentally enthusiastic humans and have a blast while we're at it," says Gomez.

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