



GALVESTON
★ ISLAND ★
Park Board of Trustees

Beach Litter Initiative

The Park Board's Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee has developed three new initiatives to follow as part of an ongoing effort to keep Galveston's beach clean, green and pristine. The committee is asking the community for feedback and recommendations on the following strategies.

Standardization of Equipment, Receptacles and Collections Across the Parks and Beachfront

Different waste streams necessitate different approaches to collection and education. Trash, charcoal, fishing line and even cigarette butts are common forms of trash left on the beach. In order to appropriately collect and dispose of these various waste streams, the Park Board proposes to standardize collection systems, educational outreach and monitoring across the Parks and Access Points.

Strategies

1. Beach TLC Stations to distribute bags and communicate codes of care
2. Deposit sites at the beach access point entrances for large items that do not fit in trash cans
3. Beach boxes to recycle beach toys/balls
4. Trash cans with lids and where needed mounted on poles
5. Recycle stations more frequently on seawall, at access points and at all the parks
6. Cigarette butt containers along seawall, at Seawolf fishing pier and at Pavilions
7. Offer disposable (and branded) cigarette butt containers for beach goers
8. Maintain monofilament containers for fishing line at Seawolf, East Beach, Boddekker and Dellanera
9. Construct hot charcoal containers
10. Dog waste stations

Volunteer Opportunities

- Beach front wide waste audit to evaluate traffic and receptacles available at beach access areas across the island
- Beach TLC stations and toy recycle boxes built by organizations (Ex. Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts, class projects, etc.)

Feedback

For feedback, please email frontdesk@galvestonparkboard.org.

Business Pledge Program

Businesses on the Island have a vested interest in a clean environment and can help influence consumers. Seawall businesses in particular are important partners in keeping Galveston beaches clean. The Park Board proposes to develop a voluntary business involvement campaign for business on the north and south side of the Seawall. The program would establish best practices that, if undertaken by participating businesses, would be

rewarded with marketing opportunities, important coastal advisory events and recognition as a 'good environmental steward'.

Strategies

1. Identify best practice criteria for recognition, such as; trashcans in parking lots, signage regarding glass on beach, banning of particular materials, recycling of cardboard, employees tasked with parking lot maintenance, amongst others.
2. Develop a scale of participation from a minimal threshold level to 'gold star' participation.
3. Consider a Park Board Concessionaire amendment to require businesses to maintain their business areas clean of daily litter during the summer.
4. Create supportive marketing for participating businesses; door stickers, destination guide recognition, web site opportunities, PSAs on trolleys and trolley stops.
5. Explore partnership opportunities with Citywide organizations, such as; Galveston Daily News and Chamber of Commerce.
6. Provide self assessment tools on waste management for specific types of businesses (retail, food and beverage, rentals).
7. Provide local businesses information on weather reports and special events so that preventative actions for debris can be addressed.
8. Develop Green Award as part of Tourism Summit, GDN Awards or Galveston.com awards.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Local businesses willing to take the pledge

Feedback

For feedback, please email frontdesk@galvestonparkboard.org.

Instill Stewardship Among Locals

Galveston is a community of volunteers, many of which are also lovers of the beach. Existing CTAs, Wave Watchers and Park Board committees are all examples of effective outreach programs. The Park Board proposes to create a Beach Ambassadors Program for resident and schools to channel volunteer opportunities, empower residents through education and engage the population in beach stewardship.

Strategies

1. Create badge incentives that are earned: with # of cleanups gets you \$10 off your annual beach pass, link with business pledge program to offer discounts at restaurants, attractions, parks.
2. Develop citizen scientist programs to help track areas of concern and monitoring ocean debris.
3. Consider "Locals Helping Tourist" program (Gulf Shores, AL) with citizen volunteers for litter and parking enforcement.
4. Prepare volunteers to receive off-island visitor groups for clean ups and prepare with collateral materials.
5. Create and/or support local volunteer opportunities through Beautify the Bucket, Bucket Brigade, Adopt A Beach, and general beach cleaning activities.
6. Create HOTLINE number to report coastal issues.
7. Create a post holiday season activity to incorporate holiday trees into dune building activities. Create a campaign to bring the trees for disposal and as material to installation in core of dunes.

8. Sponsor Mardi Gras float that highlights impact of trash on marine environment and offers revelers an opportunity to help collect discarded beads. Sponsor travelling collection kiosks during Mardi Gras to collect discarded beads.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Citizen volunteers for parking and litter enforcement
- “Locals Helping Tourists” group
- Citizen scientists to track areas of concern and monitor ocean debris
- Mardi Gras bead collection float

Feedback

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