A Letter From
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

As the new Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office (GLO), it is an honor to oversee the GLO’s Adopt-A-Beach program. Growing up near Galveston, I am overjoyed to be participating in the programs that help preserve our state’s coastline. On April 11th, I will be announcing the winners and grand prize winner of the 2023 Treasures of the Texas Coast Children’s Art Contest. I will also be participating in this year’s Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup on April 22nd. The best way to help secure the future of Texas’ beautiful beaches is by getting involved with our coastal communities.

The Adopt-A-Beach program has helped ensure our coasts remain nurtured and maintained — by educating our children about the importance of trash-free beaches, providing us with an easy way to help clean the beaches our families enjoy, and more.

I will always fight for a balance between responsible stewardship of our coastline and utilizing the bountiful resources the Lone Star State has to offer. Thank you all for being a part of the Adopt-A-Beach program and helping ensure a brighter future for Texas beaches!

For Texas,
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Spring Cleanup
Make plans to join us on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd for our Spring Coastwide Cleanup! Online registration is open at texasadoptabeach.org and we recommend pre-registering your group so you can stay informed in case any changes are made to your check-in location. We clean rain or shine, but we will not send volunteers out if the location is deemed unsafe. This includes if the area becomes inaccessible due to flooding or storm damage, or severe thunderstorms. Please pay close attention to the weather on cleanup day!

Save the Date!
Saturday, April 22, 2023
9:00 a.m. to noon

Don’t Forget!
Download the CleanSwell App so you can track the kinds of trash you find!
Spring Cleanup Check-in Locations

1. Sea Rim State Park
   Jefferson County
   Check-in: Park entrance, 10 miles west of Sabine Pass on Highway 87 South
   Contact: Madeline Martin 409-971-2559
   madeline.martin@texasadoptabeach.org

2. Bolivar Peninsula
   Galveston County
   Check-in: On the beach at the end of Crystal Beach Road, approximately 11 miles from the ferry landing
   Contact: Brenda Flanagan 409-291-9092
   brenda.flanagan@texasadoptabeach.org

3. Galveston Island
   Galveston County
   Check-in: Menard Park, 2222 28th Street, on the Seawall
   Contact: Sheryl Rozier
   sheryl.rozier@texasadoptabeach.org

4. Surfside
   Brazoria County
   Check-in: Stahlman Park, 2211 Bluewater Highway
   Contact: Mike Mullenweg 979-864-1152
   mike.mullenweg@texasadoptabeach.org

5. Quintana
   Brazoria County
   Check-in: Quintana Beach County Park, 330 5th Street
   Contact: Patty Brinkmeyer 979-233-1461
   patty.brinkmeyer@texasadoptabeach.org

6. Sargent Beach/County Park
   Matagorda County
   Check-in: End FM 457 at the County Park (Canal Drive)
   Contact: David DuPont 713-956-5240
   david.dupont@texasadoptabeach.org
   Gracie DuPont 832-248-3554
   gracie.dupont@texasadoptabeach.org
   Brian King 713-956-5240
   brian.king@texasadoptabeach.org

7. Matagorda Beach
   Matagorda County
   Check-in: Matagorda Jetty Park
   Contact: James “Cinco” Davant
   james.davant@texasadoptabeach.org

8. Palacios
   Matagorda County
   Check-in: South Bay Marina on South Bay Blvd.
   Contact: Diane Smith 915-502-3909
   diane.smith@texasadoptabeach.org
   Darlene Faldyn 361-765-0592
   darlene.faldyn@texasadoptabeach.org
   Hilde Sanders 512-718-6153
   hilde.sanders@texasadoptabeach.org

9. Magnolia Beach
   Calhoun County
   Check-in: Crabbin’ Bridge
   Contact: RJ Shelly 361-552-9747
   rj.shelly@texasadoptabeach.org

10. Boggy Nature Park
    Port O’Connor
    Calhoun County
    Check-in: At the birding observation deck
    Contact: Alexa Nichols 361-573-2428
    alexa.nichols@texasadoptabeach.org

11. King Fisher Beach, Port O’Connor
    Calhoun County
    Check-in: Pavilion at King Fisher Beach
    Contact: Roxanne Ochoa 361-746-4965
    roxanne.ochoa@texasadoptabeach.org

12. Aransas Pass/Redfish Bay
    Aransas County
    Check-in: Lighthouse Lakes Park, 4 miles east of Aransas Pass on Highway 361
    Contact: Richard Gonzalez 361-779-7351
    richard.gonzales@texasadoptabeach.org

13. Portland
    San Patricio County
    Check-in: Sunset Lake Park, 201 Sunset Drive, adjacent to Hwy 181
    Contact: Kristin Connor 361-777-4670
    kristin.connor@texasadoptabeach.org

14. North Beach, Corpus Christi
    Nueces County
    Check-in: Texas State Aquarium parking lot, 2710 North Shoreline Boulevard
    Contact: Nicole Gaertner
    nicole.gaertner@texasadoptabeach.org

15. Cole Park
    Nueces County
    Check-in: 1526 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi
    Contact: Eric Jaramillo
    eric.jaramillo@texasadoptabeach.org
16. Port Aransas
  Nueces County
  Check-in: End of Avenue G on the beach
  Contact: Marsha Dayon
  marsha.dayon@texasadoptabeach.org

17. Mustang Island State Park, Corpus Christi
  Nueces County
  Check-in: Park Headquarters Parking Lot, 17047 State Highway 361
  Contact: Eric Ehrlich
  361-749-5246
  eric.ehrlich@texasadoptabeach.org

18. Packery Flats
  Nueces County
  Check-in: Parking lot off Hwy 361, on Mustang Island near Packery Channel
  Contact: Jace Tunnell
  361-882-3439
  jace.tunnell@texasadoptabeach.org

19. North Padre Island, Corpus Christi
  Nueces County
  Check-in: Padre Balli Park Office, 15820 Park Road 22
  Contact: John Vaughn
  361-779-0477
  john.vaughn@texasadoptabeach.org
  Jim Needham – Surfrider Foundation
  james.needham@texasadoptabeach.org

20. Padre Island National Seashore
    Kleberg County
  Check-in: Malaquite Visitor Center, 20420 Park Road 22
  Contact: Kelly Taylor
  361-446-9074
  kelly.taylor@texasadoptabeach.org

21. Baffin Bay/Riviera Beach
    Kleberg County
  Check-in: Kaufer-Hubert Park, FM 628
  Contact: Letty Couch
  361-522-9861
  letty.couch@texasadoptabeach.org
  Victor Baldovinos
  956-761-8123
  victor.baldovinos@texasadoptabeach.org

22. Laguna Point Park/Port Mansfield
    Willacy County
  Check-in: 1238 South Port Drive
  Contact: Jessica Rodriguez
  956-232-1327
  jessica.rodriguez@texasadoptabeach.org

23. South Padre Island
    City Beach
    Cameron County
  Check-in: City Access Point #11 on Gulf Blvd., between Bahama and Atol Streets
  Contact: Angie Cantu
  956-761-8123
  angie.cantu@texasadoptabeach.org
  Victor Baldovinos
  956-761-8123
  victor.baldovinos@texasadoptabeach.org

24. South Padre Island/Andy Bowie Park
    Cameron County
  Check-in: 7300 State Park Road 100, at Access Road 2
  Contact: Blanca Macias
  956-761-5494
  Blanca.macias@texasadoptabeach.org
  Edgar Yada
  956-761-3700

25. Boca Chica
    Cameron County
  Check-in: End of Highway 4 on the beach
  Contact: Fernando Ramirez
  956-459-9611
  fernando.ramirez@texasadoptabeach.org
  Pati Matamoros
  Pati.matamoros@texasadoptabeach.org

Please help us thank our hotel sponsors:

- Galveston Island
  Clarion Pointe Hotel
  409-750-9192

- Corpus Christi
  DoubleTree by Hilton
  361-883-9700

- South Padre Island
  Courtyard Marriott
  956-433-0950

SPONSORED BY:
Today, Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D. announced that more than 400 volunteers participated in the 2023 Adopt-A-Beach Winter Cleanups and removed a total of 12,922 pounds of trash from seven sites during the two-day event on South Padre and across the Coastal Bend.

“It is truly inspiring to see hundreds of volunteers take time out of their weekend to help give back to Texas beaches,” said Commissioner Buckingham. “Preserving our state’s coastline for future generations of Texans and their families to enjoy is paramount. I look forward to ensuring our beautiful shores are well maintained through the continued success of the Adopt-A-Beach program.”

The Adopt-A-Beach program began in the fall of 1986, when 2,800 volunteers picked up 124 tons of trash. Since then, more than 563,000 Texas Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up nearly 10,000 tons of trash from Texas beaches.

The next coastwide cleanup is scheduled for April 22, 2023. Those interested in volunteering can find more information at TexasAdoptABeach.org and are encouraged to participate in a day filled with fun and giving back to coastal communities.

This year’s state sponsors included the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Valero, the Texas Coastal Management Program, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, Flint Hills Resources, Gulf Copper, Cheniere, Ocean Conservancy, Altos Planos Mijenta Tequila, and ATX Solar.

The Texas General Land specialty license plate design features a photo by Texas’ own Kenny Braun. Braun’s work has been featured in Garden and Gun, Texas Monthly, Wired, Southern Living, Texas Highways, This Old House Magazine and more.

The plates are available to purchase for $30 in addition to your annual registration fee, with $22 of that donated to the Adopt-A-Beach program’s all-volunteer effort to keep trash off Texas beaches.

The license plate was designed by the Texas General Land Office in coordination with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. To order a specialty Adopt-A-Beach license plate and get yours, visit texasadoptabeach.org/contribute/license-plates/
April is Rip Current Awareness Month!

Unlike a pool, the ocean has no boundaries and water conditions can be unpredictable from day to day. Rip currents are powerful, channeled currents of water that flow away from the shore. They typically extend from the shoreline through the surf zone and past the line of breaking waves. Rip currents can occur at any beach with breaking waves and commonly form around breaks in sandbars or near structures, such as jetties and piers.

Although estimates vary, rip currents are responsible for roughly 100 deaths every year in the United States and account for over 80 percent of rescues performed by surf beach lifeguards, according to the United States Lifesaving Association. There are several clues that can help with spotting a rip current from the beach, including:

- A narrow gap of darker colored water between breaking waves
- A line of foam, seaweed, or debris moving out toward the sea
- A channel of churning, choppy water present

You can protect yourself and others from being caught in a rip current by always staying in an area protected by lifeguards, learning to identify potential areas for rip currents, and taking time to evaluate the water before entering.

Remember these steps if you are caught in a rip current

- Don’t panic, and remember to float, don’t fight. Rip currents do not pull you under the water, so avoid fighting the current to save energy needed for escape.
- Do not swim against the current. Instead, if able, swim in a direction along the shoreline or toward breaking waves to escape the current.
- If you feel you are unable to reach the shore or escape the rip current, draw attention to yourself. If you need help, yell and wave for assistance.

Learn more about rip currents and the steps you can take to beach safely at: www.beachsafely.org or oceantoday.noaa.gov/every-full-moon/full-moon-wavesafe.

Reprinted with permission from Corley-Ann Parker, Communications Specialist, Texas Sea Grant
THANK YOU BEACH ADOPTERS!

To see a map of Beach Adopters, visit our website at TexasAdoptABeach.org and go to the Volunteers tab.

GALVESTON COUNTY

The Savoie Family and the Beach Pub - Mooner Beach, San Leon
The Heathen Sisterhood - Bolivar: Mabry Street to the east one mile (Gilchrist)
Marshall’s Happily Ever After - Bolivar: Waco Street to Rollover Pass
The Welty Family - Bolivar: Ramada Beach beginning at Nassau Rd
The Shark Research Institute - Bolivar: Tidelands Subdivision beach area
The Raymond and Rosemary Clement Family - Bolivar: Gulf Holiday St. to the east one mile
My Sweet Caboose - Bolivar: Clara Street area
The Hammer Family - Bolivar: Center Road to Beaumont Drive
Essence of Abha, LLC - Bolivar; Crystal Beach area
Victoria & Dominick - Bolivar: Gulf Shores Drive to Driftwood Drive
East Houston Jeepers - Bolivar: Monmouth Road to Mr. G Street
RE/MAX On The Water - Bolivar: Sandollar Road to the west one mile (Emerald Il to West Lane)
Over the Rainbow Beach House - Barrel 59-60 Crystal Beach
Ryleigh Burns - Melody Lane to Alma Street
Crenshaw School of Environmental Science - Bolivar: Helen Road to Boyt Drive
Remembering Wyatt Dale Water Safety - Bolivar: Boyt Drive area
Beach Busters - Bolivar: Magnolia Lane to the west one mile
The Benoit Family / In Memory of D’Ryan Green - Bolivar: Barrels 8-23
Ecosystem Planning & Restoration - Bolivar ferry landing area
TAMU-Galveston The Big Event - (Bayside); Pelican Island Harborside
Sir Michael Chappell & Family (Z-Krewe Galveston member) - Pelican Island NW of causeway
USCG Enlisted Association Lone Star Branch - Galveston USCGC Base & surrounding area
ExxonMobil Employees - Boddecker Road area
Manny & Christina Alaniz - Beachfront along Boddecker Road
LyondellBasell - Appel Park / East Beach
US Coast Guard ESD Houston/Galveston - East Beach
Stacy’s Vilmaris Crew - 9th - 17th Streets
Millions Bells - 18th Street Galveston to the west
The Girl Scouts of Tall Pines Hill - Beachfront at Hotel Galvez - 20th Street Area
Hotel Galvez & Spa - 20th Street area
Daryl’s Place - 29th Street - 35th Street
Organized Chaos by Brenda - Pleasure Pier beach area
Gateway Mortgage Group - 25th - 27th Streets
Mermaid Vanessa - 28th - 35th Streets
Gulf Coast Watersports - 29th Street area, Seawall
Congregation B’nai Israel - 29th - 30th Streets
Jack Johnson Beach Cleanup - 40th Street area
Ball High School - Army JROTC - 39th to 45th Streets
Oppe Elementary Campus of Coastal Studies - 45th to 61st Street
Galveston Golf Cart Society - 45th to 61st Street
Triad Marine - 45th to 61st Street
Southern S.B. Surf Shop - 61st. Pier (pier area only)
Dohman Specialties - 61st Street Pier and the West One Mile
Matthew Maurins & Family - 61st Street Pier and the West One Mile
Wei-Chen ‘Miso’ Lee - 69th - 90th Street
West Virginia University Alumni Lone Star Chapter - Frank Carmona - Beach Pocket Park #2
Holiday Inn Club Vacations Galveston Beach Resort - Frank Carmona - Beach Pocket Park #2
Hoofprints and Memories - 7 1/2 Mile Road - just east of Woody’s Bar & Grill
FUGRO - Sunny Beach - 8 Mile Road

Crystal & Ali - 8 Mile Road area
WMS Student Council - 8 Mile Road area
College of the Mainland (COM) Biology Club - (Bayside) End of Sportsman
Road - 8 Mile Road Area
Miller Higgins Family - Spanish Grant Subdivision (Ventura to Pabst)
Davis Family Group - Bermuda Beach
Cypress Fair High School Air Force JROTC - Hershey Beach
Moody Gardens - Bermuda Beach
Texas Gas Service - 11 Mile Road to Campeche Court (Pirate’s Beach)
Stargazers Girl Scout Community - 11 Mile Road, Pocket Park #3
Jane Donnelly Crew - 11 Mile Road area
Ladies of Integrity - 11 Mile Road area
University of Miami Houston Canes Community - 13 Mile Road to the east one mile
NCL Bay Area - East half of GISP
Kevin & Kate Brown - 13 Mile Road area
I Neglect Inc. - Jamaica Beach
HPE OEM Team - Jamaica Beach
National Ocean Policy Coalition - 16 Mile Road area
The Banff School National Honor Society - 16 Mile Road area
Njord Running - Half Moon Beach

HARRIS COUNTY

La Porte High School Interact Club - Seabreeze Park, La Porte

BRAZORIA COUNTY

Alpha Phi Omega Metropolitan Houston - Mile Marker 0
Lone Star Roof Systems - Mile Marker 0
Leave Your Prints Behind - Mile Markers 1 & 2
Kuehen+Nagel Houston - Mile Marker 2
Beachy Clean - Mile Marker 3
4A Energy Advisors, LLC - Mile Marker 3
Ocean Sierra, LLC - Mile Marker 3
Devin n Deb - Mile Marker 4
SeaSide Mermaids - Mile Marker 9
A Long Long Way to GO - Mile Marker 9
Bill Mullenweg Memorial Beach Cleanup - Mile Marker 10
Employees of Brazoria County Pct. 1 - Mile Marker 11
Quarantine Fishing Team - Mile Marker 11
BASF Corporation - Mile Marker 12
Surfrider Foundation Texas Upper Coast Chapter
Arehigas - Mile Marker 17 Quintana Beach
Raven Moon - Bryan Beach, CR 1495
Salvex, Inc. - Beachfront SW of Cedar Lake, San Bernard Wildlife Refuge

MATAGORDA COUNTY

Texas ChalleNGe Academy - Matagorda Beach; Jetty Park to the east one mile
Tropical Maniacs of Matagorda - Matagorda Beach
Westwood Inn - Matagorda Beach
SOS Financial Solutions - Beach Road to the west
Girl Scouts of San Jacinto - Beach Access Road to 3 Mile Cut
SaveABeach - Washout at 28.6119351, -95.9400560
Texas Girls - Palacios Bay
Phillips 66 Company - Sargent Beach at Highway 457, Bay City
Marblestone Family & Friends - one mile west of FM 457 bridge
Save the Date!
Saturday, April 22, 2023
9:00 a.m. to noon