MEDIA ADVISORY

31st Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup set for Earth Day 2017 - Saturday, April 22nd
Volunteers needed coast-wide to turn the tide on trash!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AUSTIN — Volunteers are needed for the nation's biggest all-volunteer coastal cleanup Saturday, April 22nd. The 2017 Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Coast-wide Spring Cleanup takes place at 28 of Texas' most popular tourist beaches. Volunteers can sign up at one of the locations online at www.texasadoptabeach.org to take part in a fun-filled day at the beach that makes a difference.

"The Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup is a great day at the beach for a great cause," said Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush. "There's no better way to get ready for summer season by cleaning up our Texas beaches at one of our 28 sites along the coast!"

Each volunteer will be given data cards, gloves, pencils and trash bags. All volunteers are advised to wear closed-toe shoes, bring sunscreen and plenty of drinking water. The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Cleanups are held rain or shine!

WHO: Thousands of Texans who care about the coast
WHAT: 31st GLO Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup
WHEN: Saturday, April 22nd, Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., Clean up will be from 9 a.m. to noon
WHERE: 28 sites along the Texas coast

Everyone who signs up online and checks in at their cleanup location will be entered to win a RTIC 20 Soft Pack cooler or one of five Sony Portable Wireless Speakers (Bluetooth + Waterproof). The random drawing will take place after the cleanup. Winners will be contacted directly.

Texans who are not able to attend the cleanup can help keep their beaches clean by making a tax-deductible donation online at www.TexasAdoptABeach.org. There are several different Adopt-A-Beach sponsorship levels ranging from $25 to $25,000, allowing both individuals and corporations to contribute to this major cleanup effort.

"Many Texas industries rely on a healthy coast to thrive," said Commissioner Bush. "Keeping beaches clean is not just an environmental issue-it's an economic one as well. The Adopt-A-Beach program has been instrumental in keeping beaches clean throughout the last three decades, aiding tourism and commercial fishing industries while maintaining the coast for Texas families."
The 2017 Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Spring Cleanup is sponsored by Apache Corporation, Schlumberger, Flint Hills Resources, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Murphy Oil and Exploration Company, and in-kind donor, Keep Texas Beautiful.

About the Texas Adopt-A-Beach Program:
Most trash found on Texas beaches is left there by litterbugs. The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program is an all-volunteer effort to remove trash from Texas' shores and to increase public awareness of the problems of marine debris and beach litter. Since the program began in 1986, more than 505,000 volunteers have removed more than 9,400 tons of trash from Texas beaches. 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. Coastal cleanups are held three times each year and the program's success is due to the hard work of volunteers, including local coordinators who work many unpaid hours publicizing the cleanups in coastal communities.

To learn more about the Adopt-A-Beach program, visit TexasAdoptABeach.org. Like us on Facebook at Facebook.com/TexasAdoptABeach or follow us on Twitter @TXAdoptABeach.

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