

Fireworks Roundup / Beach Cleanup

Media Release

Contact: Keep Nassau Beautiful
904-261-0165
knb@keepnassaubeautiful.org

For Immediate Release

Volunteers Cleanup After the Holiday

Volunteers remove litter and debris following the July 4 Fireworks and help keep Amelia Island beaches clean and beautiful!

Amelia Island, Florida, July 6, 2024 – Amelia Island is a beautiful place to celebrate Independence Day with fun, food and fireworks. Unfortunately, trash, litter, and debris from fireworks is often left behind. Unless these materials are collected and carried out by beachgoers, they can negatively impact the beauty of the beach and harm marine animals and other wildlife.

The morning of July 5 was designated as a Fireworks Roundup with volunteers cleaning miles of Amelia Island beaches. Some participated in organized events and others individually or with friends and family. High tide at 9:30 am meant the volunteers needed to get started early.

Annually Amelia Island Beach Ambassadors and Keep Nassau Beautiful coordinate site captains and volunteers to raise awareness about the harmful effects of litter and encourage community members to help remove litter and debris from holiday festivities. Fernandina Beach Rotary and the City of Fernandina Beach Planning and Conservation Dept joined as site captains in this year's event. More than 63 registered volunteers participated in the coordinated cleanup and removed an estimated 285 lbs. of litter from beaches north to south on the eastern side of Amelia Island.

Groups, including The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island, Amelia Island Plantation Community Association, Omni Amelia Island, Amelia Island Sea Turtle Watch, and individuals could be seen helping rid the beach, beach parks, and beach parking lots of litter and debris. The City of Fernandina Beach and Nassau County contracted service provider, Beach Raker, made a significant impact on keeping litter and debris off beaches and out of the ocean. As people are made aware of the harmful effects of disposable plastics, fishing line, hooks, plastic shopping bags, and microplastics the desire to become a good steward of the environment increases.

Event coordinators commented on a noticeable improvement in individuals practicing "Pack In/ Pack Out" or "Leave No Trace" when visiting the beach this July 4th holiday. Site captains noted bagged trash and clean picnic areas, with much less debris from fireworks. There is still much to do, and every piece of litter removed makes a difference in keeping litter and debris off roadways and out of our waterways. If you haven't pledged to reduce single-use plastic or pick up one piece of trash daily, take that first step. Once you do, you will be hooked on helping keep Nassau County clean, green, and beautiful.

Thank you to all the participating volunteers! To learn more or organize a cleanup event contact knb@keepnassaubeautiful.org.



Volunteers participate in Fireworks Roundup on July 5, Main Beach Park, Amelia Island, removing more than 120 lbs. of litter and debris.



Site Captains, Amelia Island Beach Ambassadors, provide supplies to volunteers during the Fireworks Roundup at Peters Point Beach, Amelia Island. More than 110 lbs. of litter and debris were removed.

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Keep Nassau Beautiful, Inc. is working to inspire, educate, and equip individuals, groups, businesses and governments to take action to make Nassau County a place where residents, visitors and wildlife can thrive and experience the beauty of Nassau County. Get Involved: www.KeepNassauBeautiful.org