



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Volunteers for the North Carolina Coastal Federation's Salt Marsh Cleanups Needed**

The North Carolina Coastal Federation invites volunteers to help clean up coastal marshes each Tuesday from late June through late July. Please join us at one or more of these clean up locations:

**Hammocks Beach State Park (Jones Island) - June 23**

**Cape Lookout National Seashore (Shackleford Banks) - June 30 & July 14**

**Town Creek, Beaufort - July 7**

**Sugarloaf Island, Morehead City - July 21**

**Cleanups will take place from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. each day**

Litter along our coast is not only unsightly, but is dangerous to wildlife that can mistake it for food, or become entangled in trash items. It can also be hazardous to human health and safety, and can harm our coastal resources and economy. The North Carolina Coastal Federation and its partners are committed to cleaning up our coastal marshes, but we need your help!

"Growing up in a large, polluted coastal city, I know how lucky we are to have such pristine coastal environments here in eastern North Carolina. By doing these cleanups, we can keep it that way," said Lexia Weaver, Coastal Scientist at the federation.

In addition to picking up trash, volunteers will help collect data for NC Big Sweep and International Coastal Cleanup on the types and quantities of debris collected. This information will help to identify and manage the sources of debris and focus educational efforts.

Groups will meet at 9:45 on the morning of each event. . For more information, including meeting locations and to register, please visit the Events page at [www.nccoast.org](http://www.nccoast.org).

Please wear closed-toe shoes and weather appropriate clothing that may get wet and dirty. Participants should also bring work gloves and a towel. Trash collection supplies, peanut butter sandwich fixings, snacks, water, sunscreen and bug spray will be provided. Volunteers are welcome to bring any other food items they may require. We look forward to your help in protecting our coastal wildlife and maintaining our pristine coastal marshes.

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