



Hampton Bay Days

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 30, 2009

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Hampton Bay Days Seeks Volunteers for Clean the Bay Day
--Event to take place on Saturday, June 6--

Hampton, Virginia- Hampton Bay Days, the city's largest annual festival, is currently seeking volunteers for Clean the Bay Day. The event, scheduled 9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon on Saturday, June 6, allows for members of the community to take a hands-on approach in caring for our region's most valuable and celebrated resource, the Chesapeake Bay.

Each year, boaters, families, service groups, and concerned citizens volunteer their time to prevent pollution from entering the area's waterways. "Last year, Hampton Bay Days recruited local volunteers to help collect 375 lbs. of trash and debris along Downtown Hampton's shoreline. In 2009, Hampton Bay Days will continue to encourage stewardship in our youth, who we refer to as the Green Generation, by supporting clean water initiatives and participating as official Clean the Bay Day site coordinators. This will be the second year Hampton Bay Days has participated as official site coordinators for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation," said Shelly Ezanno, Hampton Bay Days Executive Director.

"CBF is very grateful for our relationship with Hampton Bay Days," said Christy Everett of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. "This kind of dedication and teamwork enables Clean the Bay Day to be a tremendous success. We can *and will* improve water quality in Hampton Roads because of partnerships like this."

For more information on how to volunteer for Clean the Bay Day, contact the Hampton Bay Days office at 757/727-1641 or check out the www.cbf.org web site and click on the Hampton Bay Days link. For further information on the 27th annual Hampton Bay Days, check out www.baydays.com.

Clean the Bay Day began in 1988 when a group of concerned citizens banded together to help preserve the health of the bay by physically cleaning the city's waterways of litter. To date, over 87,755 volunteers have removed 4,263,345 pounds (2,025.6 tons) of debris from 4,255 miles of shoreline and waterways in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

In 1982, Hampton Bay Days was created as a unique outlet to educate the public on the importance of the Chesapeake Bay in the Hampton Roads region, as well as the rest of Virginia and Maryland. The goal of the festival was, and still is, to provide an entertaining atmosphere while ultimately serving a greater purpose, highlighting aspects of the Bay and promoting its upkeep and preservation. Over the years, Hampton Bay Days has grown into one of the most anticipated festivals of the summer. Over 500 hometown volunteers help put on the event each year.

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