



GRENADA SCUBA DIVING ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

Divers cleaning up on International Coastal Clean-up Day – September 16th 2006

The Grenada Scuba Diving Association joined more than 300,000 volunteers worldwide on Saturday, 16 September on International Cleanup Day in conjunction with the Ocean Conservancy Organization; helping protect underwater environments around the globe by taking action. This cleanup event, involving divers and shoreline participants of all ages, is the largest single-day event of its kind. In Grenada the beach clean-up was organized by Clare Morrall from Conservation Grenada

The Grenada Scuba Diving Association, which represents all the Professional Scuba Diving Operators in Grenada and Carriacou, organized the underwater portion of the International Cleanup Day. All Dive Centre owners and staff on both islands came together in a combined operation and went to clean sites such as the Grenada Marine Park and Mt. Hartmann Bay in Grenada, Tyrrell Bay in Carriacou to remove garbage and debris from under the water. It was a fantastic team effort by all the people who attended the event. A special thanks to truck driver Dave Peters from Carriacou who helped to dispose of all the garbage.

What made the event even more memorable was the small amount of garbage and debris found at dive sites, this was primarily due to a continuing and ongoing 'Cleanup Process' each time the operators go to any of the dive sites in Grenada. While at Marinas, jetties and beaches a much larger amount was found, at the commercial jetty in Tyrrell Bay for example about one ton of rubbish was retrieved from the ocean, debris which inevitable will find its way out to the dive sites if not removed. On White Island / Carriacou a beach clean up was supported by the local community and visitors, finding a puzzling amount of light bulbs in the undergrowth. On the beach signs were posted encouraging beach goers not to leave any garbage behind.

All in all the clean-up day was a huge success, with a total of more than 50 volunteer divers and cleaners, beside the hard work there was also lots of fun, picnics and parties going on. Of course any garbage produced at the fun parts was properly disposed of.

The main garbage found was 'styrene foam' food containers, plastic cups, fishing line and glass bottles, these are very harmful to the marine environment and should never find their way into the ocean. The Scuba Diving Association asks the population of Grenada to dispose of their solid waste in a responsible manner that will not have a negative impact on the environment.

Keep Grenada clean and litter free!

**The Grenada Scuba Diving Association will be organizing regular underwater cleanup campaigns. We are looking forward to see even more volunteers next time.
Many Thanks to all the volunteers, helping us keeping Grenada's environment clean!**



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Pictures of the action captured in Grenada & Carriacou



Briefing in Prickly Bay



Boat leaves for Mt Hartmann Bay



Collected at Mt. Hartmann bay



Action in Tyrrell Bay



smelly garbage at the dock



White Island collection



At Dragon Bay



Underwater



collected @ Dragon Bay