

La'ie/Kahuku

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Volunteers organized by the Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai`i (B.E.A.C.H.) remove trash from Kokololio Beach.

Photo by Suzanne Frazer

Kokololio Beach clean-up a success

Story submitted by Suzanne Frazer

Volunteers made a huge difference to the beach at Kokololio Sunday, clearing 29 815 pieces of plastic and over 12 cubic yards of driftwood.

The event was organized by the Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai`i (B.E.A.C.H.) as part of the 2008 International Year of the Reef.

Nets, rope, buoys, floats, oyster spacers, eel traps, toothbrushes were some of the items of marine debris found to be littering the beach. The most common items were pieces of plastic (26 393) and caps and lids (1 232).

Joining in the clean-up were members of the Downtown Rotaract Club, students from the UHM Marine Option Program, members of B.E.A.C.H., and staff from the Kahea Hawaiian Environmental Alliance.

A short educational presentation took place prior to the clean-up so that participants could learn more about marine debris, where it comes from and how it harms marine life.

A prize drawing took place at the end of the clean-up. Prizes included free ice-cream cones from Ben & Jerry's, a massage from East O`ahu Physical Therapy and products from Kale's Natural Foods and Styrophobia.

Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai`i is an all volunteer, non-profit organization working to bring awareness and solutions to the problem of marine debris on

Hawai`i's beaches. For more information visit: www.b-e-a-c-h.org

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