

# Kahuku Beach Clean-up a Huge Success

by Dean Otsuki & Suzanne Frazer



A huge clean-up took place at Kahuku Beach on the 2nd August, 2008 organized by the Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.). One hundred and sixty volunteers from the local community joined in the clean-up helping to remove more than 4000 pounds of marine debris from the Kahuku shoreline.



The event was part of the 2008 International Year of the Reef, which is a worldwide campaign to raise awareness about the value and importance of coral reefs and threats to their sustainability, and to motivate people to take action to protect them.

The purpose of the clean-up was to clear the beach of marine debris which is harmful to marine life as well as raise public awareness. Prior to the clean-up, Suzanne Frazer of B.E.A.C.H. gave a presentation on marine debris. She explained how marine debris from the North Pacific Sub-tropical Gyre accumulates on beaches on the windward side of the Hawaiian island chain and how it can

endanger marine life through ingestion and entanglement.

Nani Nielipinski who was volunteering at a beach clean-up for the first time said, "It was very invigorating to be a part of something so important and profound," and added that she "always wanted to do something to help heal our oceans."

Participating in the clean-up were Senator Clayton Hee and Hawai'i State Representative Michael Magoay who welcomed and thanked the organizations and individuals who volunteered. "The overwhelming response is proof positive of the good work of the Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i and the commit-



Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.)

is a non-profit, volunteer organization concerned with bringing awareness and solutions to the problem of marine debris and litter on Hawai'i's beaches through litter prevention campaigns, beach clean-ups and environmental education. For more information visit:

[www.b-e-a-c-h.org](http://www.b-e-a-c-h.org)

ment and good intentions of all participants in keeping our environment clean and safe for everyone to enjoy," said Senator Clayton Hee. "There is no doubt this beach clean-up was a most successful event for the island of Oahu and Kahuku in particular," Hee continued.

A prize drawing took place at the end of the clean-up with prizes donated by Ben & Jerry's, Kale's Natural Foods, B.E.A.C.H., and the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance. Other companies sponsoring the clean-up were Matson Navigation and Quiksilver.