Contact: Nancy Hussong

Research & Development Mgr Emerald Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau Okaloosa County Tourist Development Dept. Phone: (850) 609-5387

Fax: (850) 651-7149

emeraldcoast@co.okaloosa.fl.us

1540 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 www.emeraldcoastfl.com



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PRESS RELEASE

## Get Involved this Earth Day

Join our new Cigarette Waste Recycling Brigade

Fort Walton Beach/Destin, FL | April 2, 2014: The Okaloosa County Environmental Council invites volunteers of all ages to participate in the Earth Day Beach Cleanup on Saturday, April 12, 2014, from 8-10 a.m.

Sponsored by the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Department, the Okaloosa County Environmental Council has organized more than 30,000 volunteers in removing 114,000 pounds of discarded trash from local beaches during beach cleanups held twice each year since 1988.

Volunteers of all ages, including family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, youth groups and students are encouraged to participate in the Earth Day Beach Cleanup! Walk the beautiful coastline to collect discarded debris such as plastic bags and containers, glass and plastic bottles, styrofoam, fishing net and line, **cigarette butts (1.4 trillion are carelessly discarded worldwide each year)**, aluminum cans, and more items that harm marine life and ecosystems.

Volunteers are invited to sign in at Beasley Park on Okaloosa Island, the Beach Park west of Island Princess on Okaloosa Island, and Henderson Beach State Park in Destin.

Join our **Cigarette Waste Recycling Brigade** in collecting extinguished cigarettes for RECYCLING into a variety of industrial products. Points are applied for the amount of **Cigarette Waste** mailed to the recycling company and redeemed for a cash donation to the School or Charity of choice.

Receive your "Leave Footprints – NOT Stuff" event T-Shirt, trash bag, bottled water, gloves and Get a Little Sand in your Soul!

