

WELLFLEET CONSERVATION TR

PO Box 84, Wellfleet, MA 02667 • www.wellfleetconservationtrust.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE info@wellfleetconservationtrust.org

CONTACT: DENNIS O'CONNELL 508-349-2162

Wellfleet Conservation Trust coordinates COASTSWEEP 2017 on October 9 and seeks citizen volunteers to clean Wellfleet's Coastline

(Wellfleet, MA... September 8, 2017) - Wellfleet Conservation Trust (WCT) announces that it is organizing volunteer efforts to conduct the annual COASTSWEEP program for the Wellfleet coastline. As before, this year's program will coordinate with co-sponsors including the Wellfleet Recycling Committee, the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary of the Mass Audubon Society, the Wellfleet Conservation Commission, the Open Space Committee, and the Friends of the Herring River.

Last year's Wellfleet sweep included 40 volunteers in 11 teams, covered more than 7 miles of beaches and recovered 200 pounds of plastics and other debris. The clean-up took approximately two hours.

Since 1987, volunteers throughout Massachusetts have turned out for the annual COASTSWEEP cleanup organized by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM). Each September and October, thousands of volunteers collect literally tons of trash from beaches, marshes, river banks and the seafloor. COASTSWEEP participants join hundreds of thousands of other volunteers in the world's largest volunteer effort for the ocean—Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup—collecting trash, fishing line and other marine debris and recording data on what they find. This data is used to find solutions for keeping trash out of the ocean.

As part of the annual COASTSWEEP, the local cleanup is organizing at the Wellfleet Mayo Beach parking area on Kendrick Avenue at 10 AM, Monday October 9, (Columbus Day). Volunteers are asked to come to that point to be assigned to a small team and a section of beaches for the sweep. All supplies are being provided, but if you want your own gloves and reusable water bottles, it is suggested that you bring them. For further information, please contact either Dennis O'Connell (508-349-2162).

About Wellfleet Conservation Trust

Wellfleet Conservation Trust is a non-profit organization established in 1984 to assist and promote the preservation of natural resources and rural character of the town of Wellfleet. WCT's mission is to conserve land in its natural state in perpetuity for enjoyment by current and future generations. For further information on the effort, visit WCT at <u>www.wellfleetconservationtrust.org</u> or the group's Facebook page or write: WCT, PO Box 84, Wellfleet, MA 02667.