

# Environmental volunteer opportunities....



## INDEPENDENTLY OR WITH YOUR GROUP...

### Organize a cleanup

- **Reef** – DoE can provide advice on sites and share our guidelines.
- **Beach** – DoE can suggest important beaches to clean (such as environmentally sensitive areas and turtle nesting beaches). Department of Environmental Health (DEH) can provide supplies and pick up garbage after your cleanup. At DEH, contact Tania Johnson email [tania.johnson@gov.ky](mailto:tania.johnson@gov.ky) or call 743-5952.
- **Mangroves/coastline** –looking for something different? Visit difficult-to-access areas using kayaks or other watercraft.
- **Fishing line**—Entanglement in discarded fishing line represents one of the most significant threats to turtles and seabirds. Organize a diving or snorkeling cleanup to collect line—contact DoE for supplies and information.

### Become a licensed lionfish culler

- Sign up for a training course by emailing [DoE@gov.ky](mailto:DoE@gov.ky) – then join the effort to remove this invasive species from our reefs. For more information, see <http://www.doe.ky/marine/invasive-lionfish-in-cayman/>
- For larger groups, we may be able to provide a special training course. Contact us for more information.

### Help collect environmental data

- Report sightings of marine mammals, sharks, mantas and other large marine animals to DoE—email [DoE@gov.ky](mailto:DoE@gov.ky) and see our “Cayman Sharks & Cetaceans” Facebook group.
- Survey reef fish populations: get trained as a REEF Watch volunteer, count fish on your regular recreation dives and contribute to a global database. Complete a fish ID course at a local dive center or contact DoE to borrow fish ID resources.
- “Adopt a beach” during the summer and monitor it for sea turtle nesting and threats to adult and baby turtles.
- Contact us for info on annual and ongoing opportunities such as branching coral surveys.

### Protect or restore an ecosystem...

- Consider the environment when planning new buildings or developments—DoE can provide guidelines.
- Plant mangroves or native trees to restore a habitat.

# Ideas for getting involved!



**Photos:** 1) Fishline cleanup: Gary Redfern 2) Lionfish capture: Jason Washington 3) Mangrove planting: DoE 4) Turtle research: Sandro Abderhalden 5) Education booth: DoE 6) "Green Drinks" monthly environmental networking event : Mindy Pistacchio

## WITH DOE STAFF...

### Be a research volunteer...

- Email us with your experience and availability – we might be able to match you with researchers to assist with our projects.
- Please note: most regularly scheduled projects take place during weekday working hours. Consider—is your work schedule flexible? Could you participate through your workplace or start a project that could be completed on your own time?

### Be an outreach volunteer

- Help us increase environmental awareness. Assist us in distributing flyers, be trained to give talks in schools, help with special events, etc. Contact us for current needs and opportunities.

### Arrange a talk or another event

- Would you like to learn more about environmental issues? Arrange for a member of DoE staff to speak to a group from your office, community organization, school, etc.
- Arranging another environmental event? Let us know if we can help.

## CONNECT WITH OTHERS...

- Volunteer with local environmental organizations.
- Attend the monthly "Green Drinks" environmental networking events to meet others interested in the environment (see the Green Drinks Cayman on Facebook).
- Let us know if you need help with a project and we'll try to connect you with others.

## SEE A NEED? GET INVOLVED!

- Represent your company on the Corporate Green Team/ Cayman BECOME (<http://www.caymanbecome.ky>).
- Have a skill set that you would like to donate? (graphic design, photography, woodworking, public speaking, writing, etc.?). Let us know!
- Contact us if you have ideas for how your business, school, or organization could participate in DoE research or marine conservation.
- Let us know if you need our input on a project you would like to undertake individually or with a youth or adult group.