

## ARTIFICIAL REEF PROJECT UPDATE

by Larry Beggs  
Artificial Reef Project  
Chairman



The Artificial Reef Project is finally making great headway. We presently have 70 Reef Balls™ deployed off the coast of Canaveral on the site located 16 miles due East of Port Canaveral, in 80 feet of water. We still have to schedule a work day to go ahead and reposition the balls as necessary.

The project is finally getting the support and volunteers we have needed. The Space Coast Marine Institute has students coming over on Fridays and possibly Saturdays. There is also an Explorers group interested. The Brevard Community Service Department, as well as some local businesses and fishermen have all seen the potential for this project and are willing to help. Florida Mining and Materials has expressed an interest in a second work site, and with help in the transportation of the Reef Balls™ to the port staging area.

Work days will be on every Friday and Saturday starting around 8:00 AM and last about four hours. There will also be several Tuesdays for work days and these days will last until July 20. At that time we will load the barge for the next deployment, which will be on July 21. We are in need of volunteers to help with supervising and planning activities and also to help with media coordination. The July deployment is going to be a big event and everyone is invited to join. The boat space will be restricted to working persons only; however the barge has room for riders on it. Anyone with a private boat is welcome to come watch and then dive on the site after the barge and surveying is complete. Please keep in mind that Canaveral is an advanced diving location.

I would also like to inform any dive, fishing or aquarium stores interested, that I have model Reef Balls™ available. I would like to place these models in their stores to promote the Artificial Reef Project at Port Canaveral, as well as making them available for purchase. They would also serve to inform the public of environmentally safe alternatives for artificial reefs and live rock for their aquariums.

For information on any of the above activities please call Larry at: 407-937-3821 or pager 407-897-9833. Please be patient and try again if you do not reach me the first time. My schedule has been very busy and I am out of town a lot. Thanks.

I would like to thank all of the people and businesses that helped us get through the first stage of production and deployment:

Reef Ball Development Group,  
Lake Buena Vista Rinker plant,  
Saltwater News

June 1995

Canaveral Rinker plant  
International Towing and Salvage  
Ambassador Services  
Service Transport  
Brevard Solid Waste Dept.

Jean Kinzlow, Bob West, Jack Nolan, Dave Nowlan, Wilson & Alana Love, Derick Redwine, Ryan Moore, Van Stickle, Bruce Taylor, Bruce Thompson, Brent Grindrod, Charles Grindrod, Wallace Lamb, Tawny Beggs, Randy Monroe, Robby Duke, Herb Suggen, Chad Sarbay, Sarah Copenhagen, Robby Campbell, J.D. Diehl. Also thanks to Jim, Russ, Ray and Derick at Lake Buena Vista. Special thanks to the Department of Environmental Protection; Division of Marine Resources; Office of Fisheries Management, John Dodrill, Bill Horn, and Tom Meier, for issuing the grant money. This was part of the Florida Saltwater Fishing License Review money; earmarked for artificial reef projects. Also thanks to anyone who was not mentioned due to my unintentional oversight.

It is all of your help that has made this project a reality. Lets keep up the good work!

Larry