



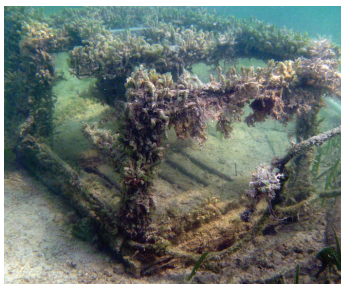
You're Invited to Keep Lignumvitae Lovely



Lignumvitae Key Aquatic Preserve covers 7,000 acres of submerged lands with a huge diversity of important species and habitats. Caribbean spiny lobster, stone crab and other species support critical commercial industries and livelihoods. A paradise for bonefish and tarpon anglers, the area also provides beautiful coastlines and opportunities for exploring the mangrove islands.

Our paradise becomes less lovely with each derelict lobster trap and every fishing line, can, bottle, food wrapper and plastic bag dropped in our water and tossed upon our shores. Marine debris and coastal trash can be a hazard to navigation, decrease value of landscapes and be deadly to marine life. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, intends to address the problem.

WE NEED YOUR HELP.



Keep Lignumvitae Lovely project includes:

1. Information gathering from our critical community partners (You!).
2. Complete cleanup of the preserve – removal of all waste and trash.
3. Marine debris data analysis to find patterns and solutions.
4. Develop a community action plan with input from the Islamorada community.



YOU'RE INVITED!

DEP will host events to gather information from locals to help develop a community action plan. We welcome your involvement in this process.

- One-on-one interviews with members of the Islamorada community.
- Focus group discussions to gain insight into perspectives and opinions.
- Lignumvitae Key Aquatic Preserve user surveys.

As a community member and user of the aquatic preserve, your input is important as we create an action plan that is both effective and efficient.



Keep Lignumvitae Lovely

Email Jake.Weinberger@FloridaDEP.gov for more information