

# CITY OF CORAL GABLES

## --MEMORANDUM--



**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Commissioners  
**FROM:** Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson  
**DATE:** September 10, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** International Coastal Clean-Up and Land Based Sources of Recyclables and Trash in Drains, Waterways and Bay

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On Saturday, September 19, 2026, the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual International Coastal Clean-up will be held. Since 2005 – approximately 20 years ago – plastic waste in waterways and oceans has increased exponentially. One of the sources of trash in drains, waterways and Biscayne Bay is the plastic and metal bottles that are in our trash pits. This waste costs our city and taxpayers' money to clean up from drains and to dredge from waterways.

Two photos on the following pages provide clear examples as to why we need to discuss ways to encourage lawn crews, contractors and residents to place recyclable materials in recycle bins and all other trash in garbage and trash bags.

I look forward to having a constructive discussion regarding this topic during our meeting.



# MARINE DEBRIS

Removing trash and debris from waterways, beaches, and canals to protect wildlife, recreation, and water quality.

*Photo provided courtesy of Miami Waterkeeper*



*Photo provided courtesy of concerned Coral Gables resident*