

Maureen Mazrimas, Friends of Wollaston Beach

Nearly 90 Volunteers Help Spruce Up Wollaston Beach



NEARLY 90 VOLUNTEERS recently participated in Coastsweep 2021 at Wollaston Beach. The group collected over 30 bags of trash, four appliances, a water heater, the bottom of a trash can, 11 syringes and a Christmas tree as well as more than 2,000 cigarette butts.

It was an impressive showing! Nearly 90 volunteers recently participated in Coastsweep 2021 on Wollaston Beach.

On hand were Rep. Bruce Ayers, Councillor Noel DiBona, Dave Murphy of the city's Department of Natural Resources, Joe Indelicato and his crew from DCR, and the North Quincy High School Jr. ROTC. Also helping out was Miss Massachusetts Earth, Olivia Bulgin, who traded in her scepter for a trash retriever. Joining the officers, directors and members of Friends of Wollaston Beach were members of the Sustainability Club at Bentley University, the Wollaston Yacht Club, and Maya Smith of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay.

On balance, the beach appeared to be cleaner than in years past. Yet, appearances can be deceiving. The group still managed to collect over 30 bags of trash, 4 appliances, a water heater, the bottom of a trash can, 11 syringes, AND a Christmas tree! Cigarette butts continue to be the big culprit – numbering over 2,000.

“Whether people are actually becoming better stewards of the beach, or whether the pandemic may have had some effect on the number of items collected (specifically the lower numbers of cigarettes), remains to be seen,” said Maureen Mazrimas, president of Friends of Wollaston Beach. “The bottom line is that 88



FRIENDS OF WOLLASTON BEACH board members with Maya Smith of Save the Harbor/ Save the Bay during the recent Coastsweep cleanup at Wollaston Beach.

people took time out of their busy schedules to clean the beach – and that is amazing! Hopefully, we can continue to see improvement in the number and types of pollutants that find their way to the beach.”

To see a specific breakdown of items collected, please see friendsofwollastonbeach.net, or follow FWB on Facebook and Instagram. Also, check the Quincy Sun and QATV for details of upcoming events – specifically the “Dick Herbert Memorial Toy Drive” in early December.

Ms. Mazrimas noted that this was a huge undertaking that had a tremendous impact. She thanked everyone for their help.



COASTSWEEP CLEANUP at Wollaston Beach generated more than 30 bags of trash - some shown here - along with a safety container with 11 syringes (center).