



TBEP To Celebrate Seagrass Recovery with October 16 Celebration and Planting

The Tampa Bay Estuary Program is sponsoring a community celebration of our success in achieving seagrass restoration goals for Tampa Bay on Friday, October 16 at Picnic Island Park in Tampa.

“Roots, Shoots & Shovels” will take place from 10 a.m.-noon at Pavilion 613 at Picnic Island. The event will feature remarks from community leaders and elected officials, the unveiling of a commemorative poster, and a ceremonial seagrass planting in shallow waters of the park.

The event celebrates an historic milestone for our bay -- the recovery of seagrasses to levels not seen in 60 years!

Survey results released this year documented more than 5,000 acres of life-sustaining underwater grasses from 2012-2014. Tampa Bay now harbors 40,295 acres of seagrasses, surpassing the baywide goal of 38,000 acres set in 1995 by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program.

These remarkable gains mirror similar trends in water quality, reflecting the collective efforts of local governments, regulatory agencies, industries, scientists and citizens working together to revitalize Tampa Bay.

Among the featured speakers are EPA Regional Administrator Heather McTeer Toney; Manatee County Commissioner Robin Disabatino; Pinellas County Commissioner Charlie Justice; Hillsborough County Commissioner Stacy White; Tampa City Councilman Guido Maniscalco; and representatives of U.S. Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio, and U.S. Representatives Kathy Castor and David Jolly.

To register, visit

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=e6budacab&oeidk=a07eb90xd5gaa4b591b>

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