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Mayor Diaz Visits the Barrier Islands with Shake-A-Leg Summer Camp

-Green Week Activities Continue as the City Starts the Summer Green-



Mayor Manny Diaz visits the Shake A Leg Summer Camp, with representatives from Commissioner Marc Sarnoff's office, the Office of Sustainable Initiatives, Shale A Leg, DERM, Ransom Everglades School and Rescue Earth.
(Photo credit: Jorge Perez, City of Miami)

(Miami, FL) Miami Mayor Manny Diaz visited the restored spoil islands off of Dinner Key today, which are now being utilized as an environmental Summer Camp by Shake A Leg. The Mayor joined City Parks, Shake A Leg, DERM, and others to commemorate the work done thus far.

“The City of Miami has invested over a million dollars in restoring our spoil islands, taking neglected areas and giving them back to the community and our residents to be used as parks,” said Mayor Diaz. “The Shake A Leg Summer Camp is a wonderful example of our investments at work.”

The City of Miami partnered with Shake A Leg, Miami Dade DERM, Florida Inland Navigation District, Royal Caribbean Ocean Fund, Dade Community Foundation, Dinner Key Marina, Hands on Miami and Ransom Everglades School in this endeavor.

Restoration work of the 2 islands, B and C, was completed in September 2006, which involved the removal of all exotic plants species, debris from boats and trash on the islands. Fill was added to the islands and it was replanted with native plant species to create a natural environment. Capital improvements to the island included the construction of a handicap accessible floating dock and trail system.

These restoration efforts are part of an ongoing process to improve the islands for a more desirable recreational use and to provide a more natural habitat. Out of 13 spoil islands that are City property, 10 have been restored – ranging from 79th street to Dinner Key. Eight of these islands were restored in the last 8 years. There are plans to restore the remaining islands by improving the native vegetation, removing exotics, and allowing public access.

About the Shake A Leg Eco-Island Summer Camp: The educational programs compliment the natural environmental conditions of the islands. Current programs include sea grass walks, plankton tows, shoreline stabilization, water quality testing, native plant identification, environmental clean ups, and other activities such as kayaking, sailing, music classes and Arts & Crafts.

For more information:

Shake A Leg Miami www.shakealeg.org

Miami Office of Sustainable Initiatives www.miamigov.com/msi

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