



CLEARWATER MARINE
AQUARIUM™

PRESS RELEASE

Public invited to help CMA clear the beach for nesting sea turtles and celebrate the release of a rehabilitated loggerhead

Clearwater, FL (June 20, 2016) – Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) will conduct a beach clean-up and send a rehabilitated loggerhead sea turtle back to the gulf Tuesday, June 21st, 2016. “Kreacher” will be returning to the wild from Clearwater Beach near the Sandpearl Resort. Media and the public are invited to attend.

The beach clean-up, sponsored by Keep Pinellas Beautiful, will begin at 9:00am. Clean-up supplies and water coolers will be provided; participants are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles. CMA will provide hands-on, educational activities to promote sea turtle awareness.

Found near the Sandpearl Resort on May 8, 2016, Kreacher was discovered floating and distressed with moderate edema. Results of a CT scan revealed shells in her esophagus and gastrointestinal track, causing her buoyancy complication and discomfort. She received TPN (total parenteral nutrition) treatments and a regular diet of squid and shrimp to help regulate her digestive system. With a clean bill of health, Kreacher is ready to return home to the wild.

Before Kreacher leaves for the gulf, she will receive a satellite tag to track her as she swims, allowing the CMA Turtle Team to learn more about the natural behaviors of the endangered loggerhead species. This is only the second tag of this nature to be utilized by CMA in partnership with the Sea Turtle Conservancy to collect data. “Using satellite tags, it has been possible to detail the post-reproductive migration routes of adult females and males,” says Adrienne Cardwell, Manager of Sea Turtles and Aquatic Biology programs at CMA. “Satellite transmitters yield data that could not otherwise be obtained,” says Cardwell, stressing the importance of the tag.

While the information provided is extremely valuable, the satellite tag is exceptionally expensive. Sea turtle fans are encouraged to join Duke Energy and support Kreacher’s journey and the sea turtle rehabilitation program by visiting the aquarium’s [website](#). [Pictures and Video](#) of Kreacher are also available for download.

Essential Details for Attending Media

Time: Beach clean-up begins at 9:00am. Kreacher will be released at 11:00am. Please plan to arrive by 10:15am for ideal viewing and give ample time to find parking.

Location: Clearwater Beach behind the Sandpearl Resort

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About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release. CMA is home to rescued dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin’s story of survival, after the injury that caused her to lose her tail, has impacted millions of people around the world. A major motion picture, Dolphin Tale, highlighted her life story in 2011. The sequel, Dolphin Tale 2, was released in September 2014 and features the incredible story of Hope, a young resident dolphin of CMA. The mission and potential to change people’s lives differentiates Clearwater Marine Aquarium from any other aquarium in the world.

WE BELIEVE in preserving our environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of marine life, environmental education, research and conservation.

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