



CLEARWATER MARINE  
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## Clearwater Marine Aquarium and Dolphin Tale Actors to Launch Campaign to Reduce Deadly Marine Debris

*Rescued sea urchin found attached to plastic to be released during event*

**CLEARWATER, FL (July 20, 2018)** – Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is taking a stand to reduce ocean debris that is deadly to marine life. On Tues., July 24 CMA will launch *Winter's Ocean Warriors*, a campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly habits and educate on the deadly impact plastic and other marine debris has on marine life, big and small.

*"We see the deadly impacts of marine debris daily,"* says David Yates, CEO of CMA. *"There are simple changes everyone can commit to that will make a difference and save lives."*

Two of CMA's recent rescues are examples of the deadly impacts of marine debris. Donkey Kong, a critically endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle, was found tangled in the line of a fishing marker and later passed a piece of a balloon through his system. Donkey Kong, lucky to survive these human impacts, is currently rehabilitating at CMA where people can visit him or watch his [webcam](#) until he is ready to be released. In addition, a sea urchin, later named Harry, was found by CMA summer camp students in Clearwater Bay attached to a plastic hair clip. CMA staff rescued Harry until he safely dropped the hair clip, and will release the sea urchin back into the water on Tuesday during the campaign announcement.

Harry the sea urchin will be released by the actors from the *Dolphin Tale* movies, including Cozi Zuehlsdorff who stars in the upcoming Disney Channel remake of *Freaky Friday*. Zuehlsdorff along with Nathan Gamble (Sawyer) and Austin Highsmith (Phoebe) will make special appearances at CMA beginning Saturday. Gamble will meet guests Saturday with Highsmith joining Sunday, then Zuehlsdorff on Monday. Visit [CMA's website](#) for the complete actor appearance schedule.

### Media Information:

- When: 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. Harry the sea urchin to be released following campaign kick-off event.
- Where: Clearwater Marine Aquarium Spectrum Theater, 249 Windward Passage, Clearwater, FL 33767
- Photos and video available upon request.
- For further information, contact Julia Anderson at [janderson@cmaquarium.org](mailto:janderson@cmaquarium.org) or 727.686.3499.

### 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 an 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.