



## News Release

February 17, 2012

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **Inaugural Fort Pierce Oyster Festival**

**Ft. Pierce, FL (February 17, 2012)** — Oysters are great to eat and growing them in the Indian River Lagoon is even better for its ecosystem. Come be a part of this critical cycle of life and join us for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Oyster Festival that will take place on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This festival will feature music, family fun, arts & crafts, as well as educational exhibits on marine ecosystems, marine items, boats, seafood and fresh oysters. The fun will begin at 10am and run until 8pm.

“Our oyster restoration projects in St. Lucie County have been very successful and the majority of the shells are being collected from area restaurants,” says Dean Kubitschek, manager of the Ft. Pierce City Marina and one of the event organizers. “Oyster restoration will also be a key component to the rebuild of the Ft. Pierce City Marina. We will be focusing on these projects at this event and the shells from the oysters eaten at the festival will be collected to be used for both the St. Lucie County project which is directed by Jim Oppenborn and the new islands being constructed for the marina. Patrons get to eat oysters and the lagoon gets the shells”

The festival will include various components of fun. The Sunrise Theater will be overseeing the entertainment. The Manatee Center will be running the children's activities. The Ft. Pierce Yacht Club will be holding a nautical flea market, which will benefit the Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation. The Fort Pierce Authentic Tours will be promoting eco-friendly things to do in the region and will be one of the benefactors of the event along with Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc. (SHIP).

Sponsors, vendors and volunteers are welcomed. For more information on this year's festival contact April Price (772) 285-1646 or go to our web site at [www.FtPierceOysterFest.com](http://www.FtPierceOysterFest.com) .

***Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc., is a 501(c)3 public charity and is dedicated to sinking a large Navy type ship for an Artificial Reef and the enhancement to our artificial reef systems on the Treasure Coast of Florida.***