



## MEDIA RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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### **Gloucester Restaurants Encouraged to Join Straw-Free Day**

Nine of the top ten types of items collected during beach cleanups are single-use plastic packaging and food service items. Many very smart people in the world are currently working on how to solve this problem from different angles. We can make a start to do our part by trying to give up single-use plastics, like straws, occasionally...maybe just for one day.

A straw-free day is being planned for **Saturday, September 21**, to coincide with International Coastal Cleanup Day. Clean Community is encouraging Gloucester restaurants to join this askHRGreen initiative. Hampton Roads restaurant guests can choose where they will dine that day by consulting the straw-conscious restaurant list on the Keep It Beachy Clean website. Whether restauranters decide to go completely straw-free, straws only on request, to instead provide paper or compostable straws, or a combination of those, **you can sign up your straw-reducing restaurant at this link:** <https://tinyurl.com/y5d9c32d>

To help you advertise your restaurant's participation, Clean Community has **freebies to bring you**, including table tents, window clings, kids' educational placemats, menu insert cards, and even a limited supply of paper straws. So sign up and add your restaurant to the Keep It Beachy Clean online list, then let Clean Community know what free marketing materials you need.

Contact the Clean Community office at [cleancommunity@gloucesterva.info](mailto:cleancommunity@gloucesterva.info) or 804-693-5370.

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