

KEEPING IT BEAUTIFUL

Happy Holidays!

2020 was a year full of challenges and change, but as we look back on this year we wanted to say thank you to all of our amazing volunteers and partners. Y'all came out to social distance and mask up with us. We were able to host 5 coastal cleanups plant a food forest and continue our Adopt-A-Group programs.

We hope that you all have a happy and safe holiday season and happy new year!

Happy Holidays!

Keep Manatee Beautiful



UTC Festival of Trees

Come find our tree at University Town Center! We are participating in the Festival of Trees with an up-cycled Christmas tree.

Up-Cycling is taking something that is no longer in use or was going to be thrown out and giving it a second life!

Our tree is filled with ornaments made from soda cans, magazines, paper towel rolls, bottle caps, and more!

You can explore all 50 trees and the



gingerbread village next to Old Navy at the University Town Center.

Dec 5th - 20th 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Here is the link to the Facebook event for more information!

Facebook Event!

Meet Our New Staff Member

Reine Thormodson was our sustainability intern this past fall and will now be joining our team focusing on education programs.

Reine grew up in Bradenton, FL and has volunteered with Keep Manatee Beautiful all throughout elementary, middle and high school. She will be graduating from USF Patel College of Global Sustainability with her Master's degree this month.

We asked Reine to share a bit about why she is excited to join Keep Manatee Beautiful.



"I was excited to be able to do my internship with Keep Manatee Beautiful, because I had great memories growing up doing coastal cleanups with them. This organization taught me early on about the importance of caring for the environment and I wanted to participate in their mission. I'm especially excited to continue working with them establishing education programs. I had the opportunity through Tampa Bay Farm 2 School and my course work to engage in sustainability education programs, and I'm excited to continue that here!"

Green Christmas Tips!



DECORATE WITH NATURE

No need to buy plastic decor from the store. Instead decorate with pinecones, branches, and poinsettias!

SHOP LOCAL

When you shop local you decrease transportation emissions. You also support your local community!





USE LED LIGHTS

LED lights use up to 80% less energy than traditional lightbulbs. Also remember to set timers for your indoor and outdoors lights!

REUSE GIFT WRAP AND BAGS

Use gift bags you already have to package presents or invest in recyclable wrapping paper.



Amazon Smiles

Remember to use AmazonSmile while Holiday shopping with Amazon to help support Keep Manatee Beautiful!

Go to <u>smile.amazon.com</u> and select Keep Manatee Beautiful and Amazon Smile will make a donation to us as you shop!

AMAZON APP COMPATIBLE

You can turn on Amazon Smile in the Amazon app just follow these instructions below.



- 1. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (\equiv)
- 2. Tap on 'AmazonSmile'
- 3. Follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile

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