



Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Coral Reef Conservation Program
SEAFAN BleachWatch Program
BleachWatch Kit Information



Dear Observer:

Thank you for your interest in participating in the SEAFAN BleachWatch Observer Network, and for your help in providing valuable information about the condition of southeast Florida's coral reefs. Your participation is an important component of an early warning system for coral bleaching and disease on the Florida Reef Tract.

There are many questions about coral bleaching and disease that must be answered in order to fully assess the environmental impact of bleaching/disease events. Where and when is it taking place? Which species are more vulnerable? What is the duration and severity of the bleaching or disease event? And finally, what is the recovery and resilience potential of the southeast Florida coral reef ecosystem? By submitting observer reports on a regular basis, you will help answer some of these challenging questions.

The following materials are enclosed in your BleachWatch Kit:

- 🌐 Program Overview
- 🌐 Coral Bleaching Fact Sheet
- 🌐 Coral Disease Fact Sheet
- 🌐 Waterproof Identification Guide
- 🌐 Data Sheets*
- 🌐 Data Sheet Instructions
- 🌐 SEAFAN Sticker and Whistle
- 🌐 Dive Slate

*If you run out of report forms, feel free to print more from the website (www.SEAFAN.net/BleachWatch) or submit online.

HOW TO SEND YOUR DATA:

- 🌐 Fill out the online data sheet at www.SEAFAN.net/BleachWatch
- 🌐 Scan *or* take a picture of your data sheet/slate and email it to Coral@FloridaDEP.gov
- 🌐 Fold the data sheet, tape it, place a postage stamp, and mail to the address on the back

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to receiving your reports on a regular basis. Please also send pictures of your observations! In return, you will be provided with Current Conditions Reports which provide a summary of conditions across southeast Florida's reefs.

Best regards,

Kristi Kerrigan

Program Coordinator

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www.SEAFAN.net/BleachWatch

