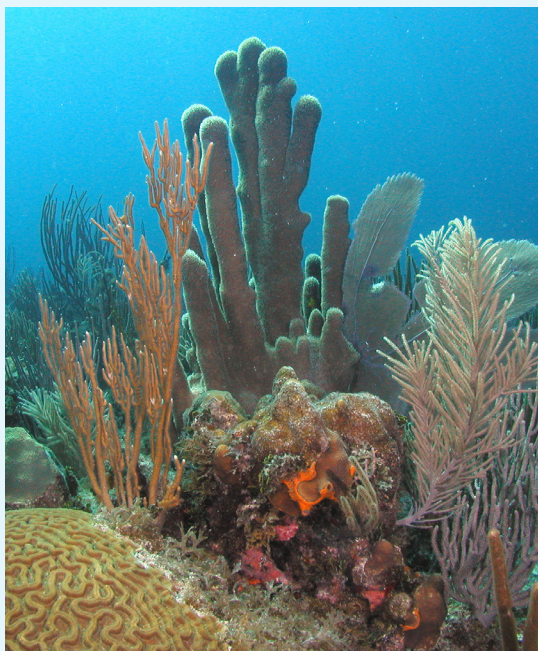
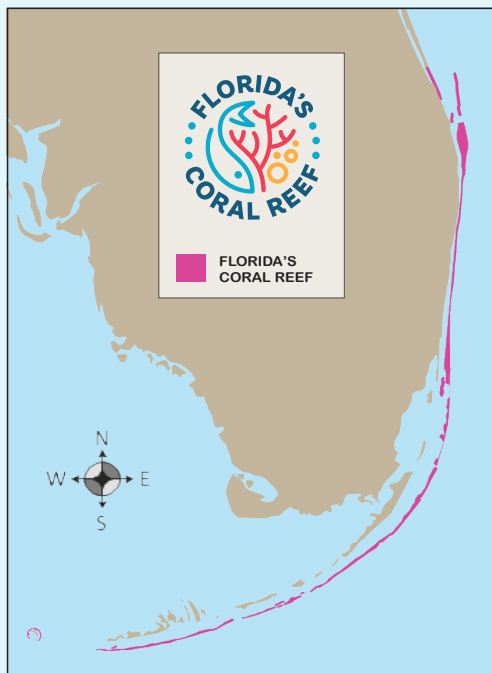




Florida's Coral Reef is the only living coral barrier reef in the continental United States. Florida's world-famous reef system extends over 330 nautical miles along the South Florida coastline.



We need your help to safeguard and protect this vulnerable treasure.



Florida's Coral Reef creates specialized **habitats** that provide shelter, food and breeding sites for numerous plants and animals, including those important to Florida's **fishing industry**. It provides **barrier protection** to coastal South Florida and is key to significant **medical research**. Scientists have studied coral reefs and plants to develop treatments for cardiovascular diseases, ulcers, leukemia, lymphoma and skin cancer.

To learn more, visit:
FloridasCoralReef.org



FIVE WAYS **You Can Help Protect** **FLORIDA'S CORAL REEF**

Florida's beaches and aquatic life are second to none. Recreational use of Florida's Coral Reef and surrounding waters is popular and important to the economy of South Florida. The protection and conservation of Florida's Coral Reef is the responsibility of every resident and visitor.

Help protect Florida's Coral Reef for future generations. When you're enjoying Florida's beautiful beaches, remember the following:

1 Use Mineral-Based Sunscreens

Chemicals like oxybenzone and octinoxate, used in many sunscreens, decrease a coral's defenses against bleaching, damaging their DNA and harming their development.

2 Avoid Touching Coral

Coral reefs are alive. When you dive, don't touch the reef, and avoid stirring-up sediment while swimming or diving – sediment can smother corals.

3 Pack It In, Pack It Out

Millions of tons of trash end up in the ocean. Whether you're on the beach or on the water, pick up your own trash and any that others may have left behind.

4 Reduce Waste

- Travel with your own reusable drinking bottle, cutlery set, mug and reusable bag.
- Recycle as much as possible, and deposit trash into receptacles for proper disposal. Recycle or properly discard used fishing gear.
- Reduce or eliminate single-use plastics.

5 Join Florida's Coral Crew

As a member of Florida's Coral Crew, you will be a champion for the rescue and restoration of Florida's Coral Reef.

Visit **FloridasCoralReef.org** today to take the pledge and find out how you can become an advocate for the protection of Florida's Coral Reef.

