

**BONAIRE DIVE INTO SUMMER'S "LOVE OUR PLANET WEEK"
OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES TO DIVE, LEARN AND HAVE FUN
- Week-Long Event Taking Place September 15-22, 2007 -**

Kralendijk, Bonaire – (August 30, 2007) – Filled with exciting activities, interesting seminars and a chance to win a return trip to Bonaire in 2008, the program for **Love Our Planet Week**, part of Bonaire Dive Into Summer 2007 and Clean Up the World Weekend, is adventure-filled and ideal for those looking to add an educational element to their vacation.

Each day of Love Our Planet Week offers visitors the flexibility to enjoy their planned vacation on island, and as an added bonus, the option to take part in interactive dives and seminars, which practically guarantees a fun and educational vacation in Bonaire. As a highlight of the program, The Coral Reef Alliance's (CORAL's) Program Director, Rick MacPherson will lead specialized dives and conservation-related seminars throughout the week at Captain Don's Habitat, the host hotel of Love Our Planet Week, and other Bonaire locations. All participants of Love Our Planet Week will receive an official certificate of participation from the Clean Up the World foundation, which is the partner organization of the United Nations Environment Program.

Love Our Planet Week will kick off on Saturday, September 15th with the FREE Yellow Submarine/NetTech, N.V. **Clean Up The World Day clean-up dive** and barbecue starting at 1 p.m. In the evening, the weekly **barbecue buffet dinner** (cost is \$14.90 per person) at Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino begins at 6 p.m. with live entertainment and a special presentation from CORAL's Rick MacPherson.

On Sunday, September 16th, participate in the STINAPA and Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire annual **clean-up Klein Bonaire dive**, a Clean Up The World activity, which departs from the Harbour Village Marina promptly at 7:30 a.m. (no limit on participants, event is free); or, join MacPherson on the "**CORAL C.S.I.**" interactive two-tank boat dive, where participants will learn the tools needed to select dive shops that ensure long-term reef protection, plus an easy way to assess reef health. The dive will depart the dock of Dive Friends Bonaire (Port Bonaire location) at 8:45 a.m. Pre-registration is recommended, as there is a limit of 10 divers. E-mail info@dive-friends-bonaire.com to reserve space; cost is \$36 per person.

Next, visitors are invited to join MacPherson at Captain Don's Habitat on Monday, September 17th for the weekly **Meet the Captain Party** at 6 p.m. where Captain Don Stewart himself will make a special appearance.

For those who miss the Sunday CORAL C.S.I. activity, visitors will have two more chances to participate on September 18th and 19th. The single-tank boat dives will depart the dock of Captain Don's Habitat at 9 a.m. Sign-ups will take place the day before each dive on the chalk board at the Habitat dive shop, with a limit of 20 divers per boat. The boat dives are open to anyone wishing to participate for a cost of \$29 per person.

On the evening of September 18th, join MacPherson at 8 p.m. in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat for a FREE interactive presentation of **"Marine Protected Areas, Our Best Defense."** The session begins with a background in coral reef ecology and then continues by showing how marine protected areas are the best defense in protecting coral habitats and why the Bonaire Marine Park is such an exemplary model.

September 19th, MacPherson will host a FREE interactive presentation of **"Saving Reefs? Just Do It!"** During this interactive seminar, CORAL will help participants take matters into their own hands by teaching simple things to do everyday to save reefs and give participants a glimpse of the long-term effects on the reefs. The presentation will begin at 8 p.m. in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat.

On September 20th, join Rick MacPherson at Deco Stop Bar located at Captain Don's Habitat for the **Week in Review** slideshow beginning at 7 p.m. Plus, all visitors who participate in at least one Love Our Planet Week activity will be entered into a drawing to win a one-week trip for two back to Bonaire. Airfare will be provided by Air Jamaica while accommodations and diving will be provided by Captain Don's Habitat during Bonaire Dive Into Summer 2008 (entrants must be 18 or older and a legal resident of the United States). Rick MacPherson will announce the winner after the Week in Review slideshow.

Additionally, all entrants will be entered into the EarthEcho International Sweepstakes (one entry per person) where one lucky winner will be awarded a trip on a 2008 EarthEcho Expedition with Philippe Cousteau. Drawing will be held on or about January 3, 2008. The winner and his/her guest must be available to join the expedition on the dates and location of the Sponsor's choosing. The grand prize shall include the reasonable cost of airfare, accommodations (often on shipboard) and meal expenses for the winner and one guest. For more information about the sweepstakes, visit www.earthecho.org/about-sweepstakes.html.

Further, visitors can enter the Bonaire Dive Into Summer 2007 photo contest sponsored by Scuba Diving Magazine until September 30th. This opportunity gives Bonaire's island guests the chance to compete with each other for prizes by uploading their best Bonaire photos at www.BonaireDiveIntoSummer.com. Winners in three categories: wide angle, macro and topside will be announced in October.

Bonaire Dive Into Summer 2007 is sponsored by the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB), Scuba Diving magazine and Air Jamaica. For more information, visit www.bonairediveintosummer.com.