



What better way to spend a Bermudaful sunny day than helping a worth-while cause, getting some fresh air, exercise and making our home a little bit cleaner! This Saturday my mom, Aunt Barb, Uncle Bill, Sandy the super dog and I participated in the Keep Bermuda Beautiful Island Wide Clean Up.



Armed with wetsuits, gloves and onions sacks to carry our booty back to our boat “Seaweed”, we headed out to Paradise Lakes to give our underwater world a bit of a spring cleaning. While Aunt Barb and Uncle Bill stayed on board to help haul out the full bags, mom and I donned the full attire and hopped in. Sandy of course didn’t need the wet-suit what with the fur coat!

There’s nothing quite like a spring swim especially before May 24th! Mike Voegeli with Bermuda Wind Sail Charters cruised by shouting his greeting and encouragement at us being in the chilly water. Working dutifully around the perimeter and in the bay near Long Island and the Butterfield’s dock my mom and I sack by sack cleared it all out. Jim Butterfield showed up to fix his dock and thanked us for helping to tidy up the bay.



I discovered the easiest way to collect the trash was to simply look for sea urchins, as they would undoubtedly have a plastic coffee top, ziploc bag or plastic fork stuck to their spines for camoflague. Hopefully those spiny guys will find something that appears naturally in our oceans to decorate themselves now. Aunt Barb and Uncle Bill visiting from Canada also got to see up close a Harbour Conch, just one more sea creature that will live a better life without trash in his back yard.



Back at home the tremendous job of sorting 8 full onion sacks into recyclable items and garbage began. Every now and then a rescue mission would be in order to remove a crab from a bottle to return it to the water. Sadly one crab had outgrown the bottle’s opening and had been trapped in there until we smashed the bottle to free him. Just, one more reason why we shouldn’t throw bottles overboard.

In the end it was four full blue bags and one large black bag of trash including a marine battery. Hopefully it won’t be as much next year!

*Keepin’ Bermuda Beautiful!*  
Karen Jones