

Contact: Allison Garrett
727-551-5750
727-330-0309 (cell)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 15, 2012

MEDIA ADVISORY

NOAA sponsors 5th annual Ocean Discovery Day

NOAA Fisheries Service's Galveston laboratory and Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary are hosting the fifth annual Ocean Discovery Day open house on Saturday, March 24 from 9am-3pm.

Every year thousands tour the NOAA facility in Galveston. Some visitors are future marine biologists and scientists and some are just in it for the fun, but all love the ocean and leave learning something new!

The FREE family event will feature creative hands-on activities, crafts for the kids, cool science tools, a chance to meet some local sea turtles, explore coral reefs, a visit from Sanctuary Sam and the opportunity to learn how to save dolphins. Visitors will also get to talk one-on-one to NOAA scientists at the lab. Some activities can also be used for credit towards Scout badges.

NOAA's Galveston lab is located at 4700 Avenue U in Galveston, Texas. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

For highlights from last year's event please click on <http://1.usa.gov/wfbH8X>

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources.

On the web:

NOAA Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>
NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/>
Facebook US NOAA FISHERIES GOV <http://on.fb.me/wr9TdT> and
NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary <http://on.fb.me/wEgAQU>
Follow us on Twitter @NOAASERfish

###