

2015 Issue 13

**BULLETIN – Issue 13 - March 2015**

**America's Cup 35**

The Steering Committee has been active, several co-chairs with varying responsibilities have been appointed and an interesting and productive meeting was held with Mike Winfield. This will be a major, ongoing commitment for BEST and we look forward to working with all stakeholders to ensure an environmentally-friendly and sustainable event.

**The BUZZ**

BEE Curious, Saturday March 28th, Botanical Gardens: This promises to be an interesting and informative day, with 2 lectures by internationally-respected, organic bee keeper, Ross Conrad. ([www.dancingbeegarden.com](http://www.dancingbeegarden.com)). The first workshop starts at 9 a.m. and is for professional and amateur beekeepers. The second starting at 2 p.m. is for new beekeepers and the general public. Listen to the interview on Mix 106.1 at 10.50 a.m. on Friday, March 27th. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. We're very excited about this event and look forward to seeing you there.



Busy Bees

**BEST Retreat**

Our annual Retreat, attended by Management and Board was held recently. A full day of strategizing our way forward was rewarding and energizing. We're looking forward to the coming

year and hope to engage even more often with the community in meaningful ways as we work towards our shared vision of a sustainable Bermuda for future generations.

### **Earth Hour 2015**

“Use your power to change climate change”. Come out to join in the fun of the ‘Glow in the Dark’ walk/race on Saturday, March 28th when Bermuda unites with hundreds of thousands of world citizens raising awareness and searching for solutions to climate change. More at [www.earthhour.bm](http://www.earthhour.bm).

### **Active Campaigns**

Here is a small sampling of some of our ongoing campaigns:

#### **Cell Towers:**

Concerns remain about the proliferation of, and possible hazards associated with Cell Towers.

Micro-plastics: A small group is working on a campaign (started by 5Gyres) to highlight the environmental destruction caused by micro-plastics (and all other sizes of plastics to be clear!) considering they are ingested by marine life which ends up on our dinner plates!

South Basin Marina: WEDCo is seeking permission to landfill over 11 acres of land. Whilst some of the newly created land is needed for AC35 this is not the case with the proposed Marina. The proliferation of marinas built, and in the planning stage, underscore the need for a national plan that assesses needs, feasibility and sustainability of these types of projects.

Tuckers Point, Southlands, Pink Beach, Ariel Sands, Bermudiana Beach Resort (former Grand Atlantic) remain “on the radar”.

#### **Future Campaigns**

We would like to develop campaigns around (i) Food Waste and (ii) Pesticides, and invite anyone who is interested in these issues to contact us (292-3782 or [office@best.org.bm](mailto:office@best.org.bm)).

#### **Recycling**

With possible threats to the recycling programme, we urge everyone to fully utilize this free public service. Please encourage friends, family and workplace to recycle TAG items. Other items that can be recycled include household air conditioners, e-waste, batteries and motor oil. More at <http://www.gov.bm/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=516&&PageID=1079&mode=2>

#### **Race for Water**

The Swiss-based ‘Race for Water’ yacht will be visiting Bermuda as part of their objective to conduct the first global assessment of plastic pollution in oceans by visiting island beaches situated in the 5 trash vortexes. The Odyssey arrives on March 31st. The crew will meet with local environmental and school groups as well as participate in a number of beach surveys. There will be an opportunity for the public to visit the MOD70 R4WO trimaran on Saturday April 11th. BEST is a partner in the Bermuda Marine Task Force, the group facilitating this visit. More on R4WO at <http://www.raceforwater.com>

As you see, BEST continues to work hard on many fronts. We rely wholly on donations and appreciate the financial support, volunteer participation and encouragement that we receive. Donations to BEST are gratefully accepted and can be made online through the BEST website

[www.best.org.bm](http://www.best.org.bm) or by direct deposit to our Bank of Butterfield account, number 20-006-060-625713-100.

Enjoy the upcoming Easter holiday and, please, take a moment to visit some of the beautiful parks, beaches, woodlands and coastal areas that BEST works diligently to protect and preserve for future generations.

BEST regards  
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