COUNCIL ITEM 5B
DATE 7/23/12

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *Marine Cleanup Initiative, Inc., and their hundreds of volunteers have worked for eleven years to remove many types of marine debris from the Indian River Lagoon Estuary and inlets, including monofilament fishing line, casting nets, anchors, chairs, tires, bottles, cans, plastics, batteries, rope, and various fishing hardware and tools; and*

WHEREAS, *Captain Donald Voss and Marine Cleanup Initiative, Inc., have raised awareness and educated our public regarding the devastating effects these materials have on water quality, breeding grounds, and the continued health of our estuary; and*

WHEREAS, *Captain Donald Voss and Marine Cleanup Initiative, Inc., have been nominated for and received water conservation awards and have brought national attention to our area as the leaders in debris removal and habitat restoration; and*

WHEREAS, *these efforts are made possible from grants, support, and donations from many sources, including local, state, and federal entities, dive shops, marinas, and environmentalists, and not taxpayer dollars.*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, JoAnn M. Faiella, Mayor of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, do hereby proclaim that the month of July 2012 be observed as:*

Marine Debris Awareness Month

and encourage all citizens to participate in activities which will assist in removing hazardous materials and debris which threaten our wildlife and waterways.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA, TO BE AFFIXED, THIS TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF JULY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, TWO THOUSAND AND TWELVE.

JoAnn M. Faiella, Mayor

Karen A. Phillips, City Clerk