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DNR Hosts 6th Annual Beach Week on the Georgia Coast

Brunswick, GA (June 20, 2011) – With summer in full swing, Georgia beaches in the Golden Isles are top destinations for visitors and residents. Beginning on Monday, June 27th Jekyll, St. Simons and Tybee Island beachgoers will have the opportunity to learn more about the natural wonders of the beach when Georgia's Coastal Ark visits these three popular beach destinations for the 6th annual "Beach Week 2011."

Throughout the week of June 27th, staff from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Resources Division (CRD) and other coastal organizations will be available at beach locations on Jekyll, St. Simons and Tybee to answer questions and talk with beach goers. The Coastal Ark, CRD's 30-foot mobile educational unit, will showcase activities, information and materials covering a wide array of subjects including beach water quality, sand dollar stewardship and important marine fisheries. The highlight of Beach Week this year will be the live displays and their connection to Coastal Georgia.

CRD "Beach Week" events are scheduled for Monday, June 27th on St. Simons at the old Coast Guard Station beach access area; Tuesday, June 28th at the Parking Lot of the Tybee Island Marine Science Center on Tybee Island; Wednesday, June 29th on Jekyll Island at the Great Dunes Park parking lot near the old Conference Center; and Thursday, June 30th on St. Simons at the old Coast Guard Station beach access area. Hours at all locations will be 10am – 3pm.

Joining the Coastal Ark for Beach Week will be staff from Coastal Resources Division, GA DNR/Law Enforcement Division, Tidelands Nature Center, Georgia Sea Turtle Center, Jekyll Island 4-H, Burton 4-H Center on Tybee, Tybee Island Marine Science Center, The Dolphin Project, Clean Coast, Oatland Island, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary and the US Coast Guard.

For more information about Beach Week 2011 activities contact Jennifer Kline, Coastal Ark Coordinator at (912) 264-7218.

The Department of Natural Resources is a partner of Conserve Georgia. The Conserve Georgia Program was developed to foster a culture of conservation throughout the state of Georgia. Nearly a dozen state agencies and authorities are working together with businesses, civic leaders, educational institutions, non-profit organizations and residents to make Georgia's land, water and energy resources more sustainable now and for generations to come. The program's Web site - www.conservegeorgia.org - serves as a portal to help Georgians find information on a wide range of conservation resources and programs.