

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Office of the Commissioner

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPNR ANNOUNCES ITS SECOND ANNUAL CORAL REEF WEEK

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces that the Division of Coastal Zone Management is hosting the second annual VI Coral Reef Week, scheduled for April 12- April 20, 2025. The community is invited to participate in a week of complimentary events in St. Thomas at no cost to explore the outdoors and reconnect with the VI's critical marine habitats.

The events are as follows:

April 12-20 Free Kayak and Snorkel Tours. Use the promo code "**coralreefweek**" to sign up for a free Cas Cay Kayak, Hike, & Snorkeling Ecotour. Reserve your free tour at https://www.viecotours.com/

April 14 (7-8pm) Screening of the documentary "With and Without" at Leatherback Brewing.

April 15 (2:30-4pm) Restoration Brainstorm Workshop with UVI coral and mangrove scientists. Register in advance at https://bit.ly/crwbrainstorm

April 18 (8:30am-1pm) Snorkel Tour of the National Park on Reef Surfari. Spots are reserved for VI residents only. Sign up at: https://bit.ly/crwsurfari

April 18 (5-7pm) Student Ocean Art Show at 81C Art Gallery.

April 19 (12-4pm) Reef Fest at Magens Bay. Please inform the gate attendant that you are attending Reef Fest. Sign up for the free snorkel clinic at https://bit.ly/crwclinic

Please see the attached calendar of events for additional details.

For questions or program information, please contact Jendahye Antoine via email at <u>jendahye.antoine@dpnr.vi.gov</u> or 340.774.3320 ext. 5136 or Alex Fireman at <u>alex.fireman@dpnr.vi.gov</u> or 340.718.3367.