

# Press Release

## **Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University** **To Celebrate Estuaries Day in September**

FORT PIERCE, FL – What is an Estuary? Learn about estuaries, including the one in your own backyard—the Indian River Lagoon—when Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in Fort Pierce hosts two events in honor of National Estuaries Day during the month of September.

Wednesday, September 17, Robert Day with the Indian River Lagoon Program at St. Johns River Water Management District will speak on “The Indian River Lagoon: An Estuary of National Significance” at 7 PM in the Johnson Education Center on the Harbor Branch campus of Florida Atlantic University. Admission is free.

The events continue on Saturday, September 27, with a National Estuaries Day celebration at the Ocean Discovery Center located directly across from the main gate at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in Ft. Pierce. This family event will take place from 10am to 4 pm and will feature indoor and outdoor fun and activities including:

- “Living Lagoon” Indian River Lagoon marine life displays
- Hands-on Water Quality Exploration Station
- Hands-on kids’ papier-mâché marine art workshop with Florida artist DiVitto Kelly
- Harbor Branch Scientist Meet-and-Greet
- Kids’ Arts and Crafts Table
- Ocean Discovery Center interactive ocean science exhibits
- Lagoon Information and merchandise tables, featuring book sales and signing by the authors
- Fun and Games

The Harbor Branch Marine Mammal Stranding Ambulance will be on-hand, and food, drinks, and raffle tickets will be available for purchase. In addition, the Gift Shop will be open and will showcase some of its new merchandise. Local artist Steve Dioosy will unveil his new Harbor Branch t-shirt design. Free admission to the event with giveaways and prizes. For more information call 772/465-2400 ext. 559.