

# ST. THOMAS SOURCE

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## Coral World Ocean Park Prepares for Annual Reef Fest



[1] Coral World Ocean Park, in support of the University of the Virgin Islands and Blue Flag USVI, is preparing for the sixth annual St. Thomas Reef Fest, scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7, rain or shine. The Sea Grant Marine Outreach Program's V.I. Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS) at UVI has organized this Reef Fest fundraiser in years past. Valerie Peters, Blue Flag USVI coordinator and director of marketing at Coral World Ocean Park, said, "As a marine education facility, Coral World Ocean Park supports the University of the Virgin Islands' efforts to increase environmental education opportunities for the children of the Virgin Islands through the VIMAS program." "Reef Fest celebrates the coral reef. It is about empowering the local community to protect coral reefs. It is a day dedicated to learning about the bond between humans and the reef, and about what each person can do to cultivate that relationship in a positive way," said

Peters.

[2] The Coral World mission statement says its goal is "to bring you close to the inhabitants of the magical undersea world that surrounds the Virgin Islands and to the stunning variety of plant life that grows in our lagoons and on our hillsides," according to Trudie Prior, general manager of Coral World.

Reef Fest presents a unique opportunity to interact with and learn about marine creatures and the reef they inhabit.

The fun will last all day with educational and family-oriented activities.

Free admission to Coral World Ocean Park (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

Free parking and free roadside shuttle service (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

Live music

Reef Rap Competition

Marine conservation related presentations and demonstrations

Family-friendly educational games

Various Coral World exhibits and feeding presentations

Booths decked out with take-home information about the unique island environment



Coral World encourages individuals, businesses, agencies and groups to come forward with supplies, food, equipment, funds, talent and education to support the festival. In the spirit of the reef, attendees will learn more about the ocean, reflect on the oceans' importance in their lives, take time to do something good for the blue planet, and learn how to take action to protect the ocean and the reefs.

More details regarding the annual Reef Fest at Coral World and Coki beach will be forthcoming.

For more information, contact Valerie Peters at [marketing@coralworldvi.com](mailto:marketing@coralworldvi.com) [3] or 775-1555, ext. 246 and befriend the Coral World Facebook page

St. Thomas business

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[3] <mailto:marketing@coralworldvi.com>