

## Medallions & Decals

The Miami Dade Reef Guard Association set up in 2009 to provide financial support for the continued installation and maintenance of mooring buoys by involving the diving, fishing and boating communities in a medallion and decal program with an annual \$10 donation.

### The 2010 medallion

2 inch diameter  
blue anodized  
aluminum.



### The 2010 decal

4 inch  
diameter  
full color.

Medallions and decals can be purchased at local dive shops, marina offices and water sports outlets in Miami-Dade county.

Want to do more? Why not get the lifetime member medallion for \$200.

### The lifetime medallion.

2 inch diameter  
12 gauge  
solid bronze with  
an antique finish.



## Contact Us

Website: [www.ReefGuard.org](http://www.ReefGuard.org)  
Phone: 305-861-6277  
E-mail: [info@ReefGuard.org](mailto:info@ReefGuard.org)  
Join us on Facebook;

facebook

### Mail:

Miami-Dade Reef Guard Association (MIRA)  
5352 Pinetree Drive  
Miami Beach, FL 33140.

The Miami Dade Reef Guard Association is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization registered in the state of Florida (CH31630). Charitable contributions to the Association are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

MIAMI-DADE ReefGuard.org  
**ReefGuard**  
ASSOCIATION

protecting our reefs • conservation  
education • recreation • appreciation

**The Miami Dade Reef Guard Association is a Florida Not For Profit Corporation set up to:**

Provide collective assistance in the promotion, funding and organizing of resources for the installation and maintenance of mooring buoys on the reefs adjacent to Miami-Dade County.

Promote and support both artificial reef deployment and natural reef conservation in sea areas adjacent to Miami-Dade County.



[www.ReefGuard.org](http://www.ReefGuard.org)

## Mooring Buoys

### Protecting the Miami-Dade County Reefs:

There are approximately 48 miles of coral reef adjacent to Miami-Dade county from Broad Creek in the South to the Broward county line near Hallandale Beach in the North. Just over half, about 25 miles, are within the Biscayne National Park boundary with the remaining 23 miles the responsibility of the Miami Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

Damage to our reefs comes from many sources:

- **Pollution**
- **Global warming**
- **Agricultural run-off**
- **Sewage outfall**
- **Increasing ocean acidity**
- **Boat anchoring**

A simple and effective way to reduce the damage caused by boat anchoring is to install permanent mooring buoys on the reefs so that boats may tie up safely without having to use their anchors. In recent years both the National Park authority and DERM have started to install mooring buoy systems.



The buoys are anchored using an 18" stainless steel anchor cemented into the reef.

## Artificial Reef Deployment

An artificial reef is a man-made, underwater structure, typically built for the purpose of promoting marine life in areas of generally featureless bottom.

Artificial reefs are built by deploying existing materials on the sea floor. This can be done by sinking oil rigs, scuttling ships, or by deploying rubble, or construction debris. Some artificial reefs are purpose built (e.g. reef balls, polygons or even sculptures) from concrete. Historic or modern shipwrecks become unintended artificial reefs when preserved on the sea floor. Regardless of construction method, artificial reefs are generally designed to provide hard surfaces to which algae and invertebrates such as barnacles, corals, and oysters attach; the accumulation of attached marine life in turn provides intricate structure and food for fish and other marine animals.

In 2009, Miami Dade Reef Guard Association with funding from the Brian & Lavinia Snyder Foundation deployed the artificial reef *The Ophelia Brian*.



Sinking *The Ophelia Brian* off Key Biscayne, Miami, Florida. Originally a 210 foot long freighter built in 1965, environmentally cleaned by Bruce Schurger & Company.

## Current Buoy Locations

### Miami-Dade Locations:

Graceland . . . . .25 56.128N, 80 06.643W  
N. Canyon . . . . .25 55.805N, 80 06.353W  
S. Canyon . . . . .25 51.627N, 80 06.505W  
Pillars . . . . .25 51.620N, 80 05.978W  
Jose Cuervo . . . . .25 46.132N, 80 07.692W  
Emerald Reef . . . . .25 40.486N, 80 05.865W

### Biscayne National Park Locations:

Anniversary Reef . . .25 23.295N, 80 09.864W  
Bache Shoal . . . . .25 29.111N, 80 08.908W  
Ball Buoy Reef . . . .25 19.097N, 80 11.059W  
Elkhorn Reef . . . . .25 21.777N, 80 09.952W  
Lugano Wreck . . . . .25 26.681N, 80 07.153W  
Mandalay Wreck . . . .25 26.524N, 80 07.313W  
Pacific Reef . . . . .25 22.197N, 80 08.349W  
Rocky Reef . . . . .25 20.077N, 80 09.707W  
Schooner Wreck . . . .25 23.937N, 80 09.655W  
Shark Reef . . . . .25 20.364N, 80 09.944W  
The Drop . . . . .25 21.967N, 80 08.261W  
Triumph . . . . .25 28.599N, 80 06.678W

### For more detailed information and instructions on proper mooring buoy use:

Go to <http://www.reefguard.org/PDF/buoy.pdf> for GPS locations of mooring buoys north of the Biscayne National Park.

Please visit <http://www.nps.gov/bisc/planyourvisit/mooring-buoy-locations.htm> for GPS locations of mooring buoys within the National Park.

### Damaged or Missing Buoy?

If you didn't find a particular buoy or the buoy was damaged in some way please send a report to [info@reefguard.org](mailto:info@reefguard.org) with details including the date you made the observation and if possible the GPS coordinates for the particular site.