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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 18, 2023

### **Miami Beach ‘Yappy Hour’ Promises Spooky Fun**

— *Flamingo Park is going to the dogs on Friday, Oct. 20 for tricks and treats* —

**Miami Beach, FL** – The City of Miami Beach is inviting all city dogs and their humans to attend a Halloween-themed “**Yappy Hour**” at **Flamingo Park** on **Friday, Oct. 20** from **5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** The park is located at 13 Street and Michigan Avenue.

“Pet owners, lets *paws* and think about the impact on Biscayne Bay,” remarked Mayor Dan Gelber. “By being mindful of pet waste, we lessen the stormwater pollution and help keep our neighborhoods clean.”

Sponsored by the Miami Beach Environment and Sustainability Department, “Yappy Hour” supports the city’s We Heart Biscayne Bay campaign, which focuses on educating and engaging the public on three major sources of pollution in Biscayne Bay — pet waste, litter and fertilizer.

Pet owners and their dogs are encouraged to show up in Halloween costumes for a howling good time. The event will feature live music, a dog adoption station, a pet costume swap, pet vendors and tips from a veterinarian and dog trainer. The City of Miami Beach is partnering with the Miami-Dade Animal Services Department to provide a dog adoption station.

“This event is also a great way to meet fellow pet owners, enjoy a night out with your furry friend, and learn how to not be Ruff on the Bay” added Commissioner Alex Fernandez. “Pet waste is a pollutant that impacts Biscayne Bay water quality because it contains nitrogen and phosphorous which can deplete oxygen that marine life needs to survive.”

The 2023 Biscayne Bay Economic Study illustrates the Bay has an astounding \$64 billion in economic output including \$24 billion in income and supporting 448,000 jobs. The City of Miami Beach continues to enact regulations, programs, and infrastructure investments to protect the Bay. It has a unique partnership with Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami to advance Resilient305, a shared resilience strategy that highlights Preserving and Restoring Biscayne Bay as the #1 priority.

To learn more about protecting Biscayne Bay and the We Heart Biscayne Bay campaign, visit [www.mbrisingabove.com/biscaynebay](http://www.mbrisingabove.com/biscaynebay).

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