

# Recycle Those Beads!

*Coalition Webmaster*



This year's Mardi Gras celebration ended with a little lagniappe, Zero Waste Solutions, **Mark Dunning Industries, and Keesler Air Force Base** teamed up to clean up all of the beads remaining along the parade route after the D'Iberville Mardi Gras Parade. The team of volunteers, who followed behind the last float, collected more than 1,700 pounds of beads. The beads collected were donated to Gulf Coast Industries in Gulfport, MS.

Gulf Coast Industries is a Gulf Coast Mental Health Center work activities program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They run a Thow-M-Again! Mardi Gras bead recycling center with drop off locations in Bay St. Louis, Biloxi, D'Iberville, Gautier, Gulfport, Long Beach, Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, Pass Christian, Kiln, Picayune, Poplarville, Vancleave, and Waveland. Krewes wishing to purchase recycled beads may contact them by visiting the Thow-M-Again web page. MRC salutes these local recycling efforts and encourages organizations to consider purchasing recycled beads when you plan your next Mardi Gras event!