# Fish & Wildlife Mission Statement

The Division of Fish & Wildlife is charged with the assessment &monitoring of fish & wildlife resources within the US Virgin Islands. The Division provides scientific advice to the Commissioner of the Department of Planning & Natural Resources on the condition of marine resources & the best strategies to sustain these resources for our community.

This brochure was created to raise awareness within the community about the various educational opportunities being provided by the Division of Fish & Wildlife. An educated & engaged community is one that is environmentally conscious & action oriented.



# **Dingell-Johnson Act**

The Bureau of Environmental Education is funded by the Dingell-Johnson Act, which receives money from excise taxes on fishing gear such as rods & reels. Our mission is to increase public awareness about the importance of the natural resources belonging to the US Virgin Islands through the dissemination of information to members of the community. The Bureau of Environmental Education also seeks to promote outdoor recreation & to create opportunities for community members to enjoy recreational & sport fishing.



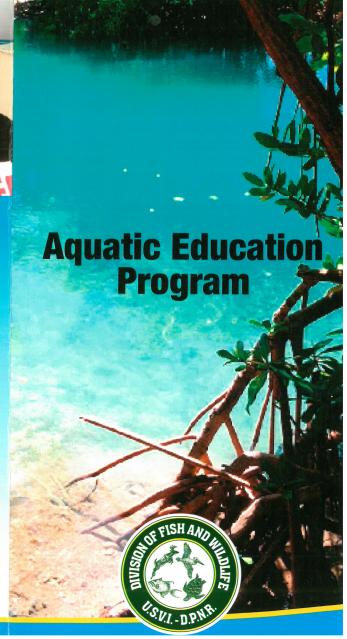


#### **Educator's Corner**

We would love to come speak to your classes and groups! Give us a call and we can coordinate a day of fun educational activities catered to specific age groups. We are here to instill a sense of wonder and curiosity in the leaders of tomorrow.



St. Thomas: (340) 775-6762 St. Croix: (340) 773-1082



Department of Planning & Natural Resources

Division of Fish & Wildlife

# Services:

#### **Shoreline Walks**

We offer field trips to local shorelines where the community has an opportunity to jump in & interact with marine life aided by view finder buckets Guided by trained personnel who are knowledgeable about native species, the public can explore their local marine environment in a safe & enjoyable way.



#### **Presentations**

- A Day on the Beach: Beach Habitats & Ecosystems
- Dwellers of the Deep: Pelagic Fish
- Underwater Fin Facts: Roles That Fish Play in Our Ocean
- Filters of the Sea: Mangrove Habitat
- ABCs of the Ocean: Fish Identification (K3-K5)
- Be a Responsible Resource User

### Fishing Clinics

Fishing is an excellent introduction to the marine environment & an important part of our Virgin Islands' culture. Students are introduced to the conservation of resources &responsible fishing practices while learning recreational fishing techniques.

- Fishing Ethics
- Tying Knots
- Fishing Safety
- Environmental Awareness
- Basic Angler Fishing Skills



#### **Brochures**

- Fact Sheet Guide
- Fish Identification Book
- Activity Books
  - ° Fishing in the VI Waters
  - Where I Live: Marine Habitats in the USVI Coloring Book
  - ° Fishing VI Style
  - Environmental Composition Book (K-3)
  - Caribbean Fish Activities Workbook (4-6)
  - Animals of the USVI Coloring Book

## **Available Materials**

- Shallow Water Game Fish of the VI
- Mid-Water Game Fish of the VI
- Deep Water Game Fish of the VI
- Shallow Water Reef Fish of the VI
- Mangrove Habitats of the VI
- Coral Reef Habitats of the VI
- Seagrass Habitats of the VI
- Freshwater Habitats of the VI
- Salt Pond Habitats of the VI
- Winter Resident Seabirds of the VI
- Summer Migrant Seabirds of the VI
- Mammals of the VI

#### **Posters**

- Beaches: Where the Land Meets the Sea
- Deep Water Game Fish: Recreational Fishing in the USVI
- Mid Water Game Fish: Recreational Fishing in the USVI
- Shallow Water Game Fish:
  Recreational Fishing in the USVI
- Shallow Water Game Fish: Recreational Fishing in the USVI
- Shallow Water Reef Fish: Recreational Fishing in the USVI

