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## A Hairy Solution To Cleaning The Oil Spill

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY (Bay News 9) -- A Bay area salon is helping with the Gulf oil spill in its own way.

Michael Angelo's hair studio in south Tampa is collecting its hair clippings.

The plan is to stuff the hair into nylon stockings and then have them ready to pile up along the Gulf coastline.

"Basically, what happens is hair repels water but collects oil," said salon co-owner Anthony Bellapigna. "That's why we wash our hair so when we lay this (stocking) down water passes through it, it collects the oil that's in the water and then the water is then released and then we ring it out and use it over again."

Some of the hair is even turned into a mat to collect oil. And, according to NASA, it works.

Officials said salons across the country are collecting hair in an effort to help.

Bellapigna said his salon started collecting hair about a year ago in an effort to be environmentally friendly, never thinking it could be used to help quell an environmental disaster.

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