



Ways to Help Marine Life Every Day

1. Volunteer with local community groups to stencil storm drains, Adopt A Beach programs or monitor the water quality of local watersheds. Organize your classroom, school club or organization to clean litter from rivers, creeks, estuaries and beaches. Did you know that storm water pollution (urban runoff) is the leading cause of water pollution nationwide? Pollutants such as motor oil, antifreeze, detergents, litter, paint, pesticides, pet waste and copper (from brake pads) are flushed off streets and into storm drains, which lead straight to rivers, creeks and the oceans.
2. Participate in Save the Whales' Petitions with your classroom, club or church group. Petitions about different issues can be found at our website, www.savethewhales.org under "Take Action." Each signature from an individual to a government official represents the opinion of hundreds of people.
3. Cut up plastic six-pack rings before recycling them or disposing of them in the garbage. Thousands of birds, fish and other marine mammals die needlessly from entanglement.
4. Pick up trash while walking in your neighborhood. Participate in National Coastal Clean Up Day (September) www.coastforyou.org to prevent pollution in watersheds and storm drains. Did you know that one of the most common sources of beach pollution is cigarette butts which can take up to seven years to break down? Volunteers removed more than one million cigarette butts from the environment on one National Coastal Clean Up Day.
5. Never release balloons outside, as they can travel hundreds of miles and land in rivers, creeks and oceans. Whales, dolphins and turtles can be killed by ingesting balloons that they mistake for jellyfish or other food. Educate your school or community businesses not to participate in balloon releases. A 60-foot sperm whale washed up dead on a New Jersey beach from ingesting a balloon, which blocked its stomach and caused it to starve.
6. Keep your car well maintained in order to prevent leaks onto roadways and driveways, which contribute to water pollution. Carpool, when possible, or ride your bike. Recycle used motor oil. Take hazardous waste, such as paint, pesticides and antifreeze, to a hazardous waste site. Call 1-800 CLEANUP or visit www.cleanup.org for the free drop-off location nearest your home.
7. Never discard used fishing line and hooks in the water. They can entangle birds, fish, turtles, seals and otters and cause death for these animals.
8. Never dump anything in the street, as it ends up in storm drains, which travel straight to rivers, creeks and ultimately the oceans, without being cleaned. Did you know that one quart of motor oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water? A drop of oil the size of a dime on a sea otter can cause it to die from hypothermia (freeze to death).
9. Recycle, Reuse and Reduce. Landfills across the nation are filling up with discarded items and refuse. Hazardous waste thrown in the garbage ends up in landfills, where it leeches into the soil and ground water causing contamination. Reduce your refuse by recycling, reusing and composting. Plant an organic garden free of pesticides.
10. Buy products that are environmentally friendly, and support organic farming.

Save The Whales

1192 Waring Street, Seaside, CA 93955

Phone: 831-899-9957 Fax: 831-394-5555

Email: maris@savethewhales.org Website: savethewhales.org

