

A wide-angle photograph of a beach heavily littered with trash. In the foreground, a large, empty, light-colored coconut shell sits on the sand. Scattered around it and across the beach are various pieces of debris, including plastic bottles, a red plastic container, and pieces of fabric. The beach extends to the ocean, where waves are visible. In the background, there are low hills or mountains under a cloudy, overcast sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of environmental neglect and pollution.

Ocean Pollution

Hunger & Homelessness
By Jake & Alec 10th Grade

What is Ocean pollution?



Ocean pollution is when human waste directly affects the ocean. Things like excess plastic, and garbage can be floating around the oceans in patches, the size of the state of Texas. This affects the oceans wildlife directly because if an animal gets caught in one of these patches they can be seriously injured or even killed. Over 100,000 marine mammals die every year from entanglement with plastic, and garbage put into the oceans by humans. It's not only oceans which are polluted though rivers, lakes, and other bodies of water are also affected.

Taking action

For our plan of action project, we decided to adopt a sea turtle. Why sea turtles? Due to climate change, the sea turtle population is at high risk of extinction. As the oceans temperatures rise, it becomes more likely that sea turtles will go extinct. The gender of sea turtle is determined by the temperature of the oceans floor at the time of its birth. The warmer it gets, the more likely it is that the turtle will be female. This means that with the male population of sea turtles declining it will become harder and harder for them to reproduce. This is a problem because sea turtles are vital to the ocean's ecosystem. Often referred to as the oceans lawnmowers, they eat the seagrass on the oceans floors. Too much built up seagrass can be dangerous for smaller fish species. This shows how ocean pollution and climate change can have a major effect on the oceans ecosystems.

Our project



On behalf of

Jake Feinstein

a Sea Turtle

has been adopted through World Wildlife Fund

J Sotelo

Jessica Sotelo
Director, Membership

www.worldwildlife.org

We raised money from our local communities, to adopt a sea turtle through WWF. This means they will be able to do research on our turtle to help save others. Hopefully one day the sea turtle species can be restored.

Demand plastic free alternatives

Around 17.6 billion pounds of plastic go into the ocean every year. Some alternatives to plastic:

- Steel straws
- Paper bags
- Edible water bottles or metal
- Edible utensils made from wheat flour and rice
- Bamboo toothbrush



Avoid ocean harming products

- Cigarettes
- Food wrappers
- Containers Beverage Bottles
- Plastic Bags
- Caps / Lids Cups
- Plastic Forks, knives, spoons
- Straws
- Glass bottles
- Cans

True or false

- 8 million metric tons of garbage are dumped into the ocean each year.
- Scientists detected a deadzone the size of new jersey in the ocean.
- Oil spills are the main reason that the oceans is polluted.

Answers

- 1) True
- 2) True
- 3) False

How does Ocean pollution affect wildlife

Around the world wildlife is heavily affected by ocean pollution. Studies show that in the next 30 years, there will be more plastic than fish in our ocean. Because of the garbage and plastic dumped into the ocean each year over 100,000 marine mammals die each year, with many more critically wounded.





Help clean the ocean
to save the sea turtle donate or go to
<https://gifts.defenders.org/eco-pals>