

Behind our Beautiful Seas

5 June - World Environment Day (WED) | 8 June - World Oceans Day (WOD)

Facts

16,485 tonnes of marine refuse was collected by government departments in 2016¹. It requires **4,121** garbage trucks (each with a capacity of 4 tonnes) to remove the refuse.

Local surveys showed **60 - 80%** of litter found along Hong Kong shorelines, sea surface and seabed was made up by

plastic debris².

Common plastic debris:



Polystyrene fragments



Bottle caps



Straws and stirrers



Plastic wrappers and film

(Photo credit: Coastal Watch)

Marine litter harms the ecosystem. For example, wildlife will ingest plastic debris or get entangled in fish nets.



Photo from Algalita Marine Research Foundation- ©5Gyres

A scientist caught a fish which had many plastic particles in its gut.

A sea turtle swims entangled in abandoned fish net.



Photo by Francis Pérez, World Press Photo

How You Can Help

Leave No Trace

Always take your litter away with you. Dispose of or recycle all litter properly.

Report Littering Incidents



Report littering incidents/litter blackspots helps relevant organizations to take proper follow-up actions.

Tips: You can use TrailWatch mobile app to report suspicious sightings.
➔ www.trailwatch.hk



Take Part In Clean-up

You can participate in clean-up campaigns via various organizations such as:

- Hong Kong Cleanup (<http://hkcleanup.org/>)
- Green Council (<http://www.greencouncil.org/>)



Go Green

Always Bring Your Own and follow 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) properly.

Join our WED & WOD Activities:

➔ <http://goo.gl/M0FShS>

To Learn More

- ➔ Coastal Watch, <http://coastalwatch.hk/>
- ➔ Plastic Free Seas, <http://plasticfreeseas.org/>
- ➔ Top Ten Land-based Marco Debris, <http://goo.gl/KGSGv3>



Campus Sustainability Committee
Campus Sustainability Office

Graphic Credit: Designed by Freepik

Reference

¹ TOPick. 海上棄置垃圾投訴急升近7成 惟2年僅30宗被檢控. TOPick, Hong Kong Economic Times, Hong Kong, 15 February 2017. Available: <https://topick.hket.com/article/1661966>.

² World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong. (2016). Coastal Watch – Turning the Tide Against Marine Litter, Marine Litter Report. Available: <https://coastalwatch.hk/download/cowmarinelitterreport-eng/>