



Help keep our waterways litter free

Around 8 million items of litter enter the marine environment each day, with approximately 80% of this marine debris coming from land based sources as people go about their daily lives and 20% sea based. To help prevent your waste from ending up in our waterways where it can harm or kill marine animals and other wildlife, follow these simple tips to help keep Australia litter-free.

- Always put your rubbish securely in a bin or recycle it whenever possible. Don't throw any litter in the street or gutter as storm water drains flow straight to our waterways.
- Secure your garbage bin lid so litter doesn't blow free when emptied or if overfilled.
- Keep a carry/tidy bag in your car for your rubbish and for when you go walking near the ocean or other waterways. Every piece of litter you pick up is one less that can cause harm.
- Cigarette butts are the single biggest litter item and are harmful to wildlife on the land and in our waterways. Always stub out your butts and put them in a bin.
- Avoid products that are 'overpackaged' - wrapped in individual packs or several layers of plastic. Re-use your plastic shopping bags, or take cloth ones to the shops.
- Pack a waste-free lunch avoiding individual packets, plastic bags or cling wrap. Pack in reusable containers or wraps.
- Take your litter home for recycling or disposal when visiting beaches, parks and gardens.
- Never allow toxic chemicals such as paints, fertilizers or pesticides and oils to enter the storm water system where it can flow into the ocean, poisoning marine animals and plants.
- If you see an injured marine mammal, bird or fish, report it to the RSPCA.

