

Monitoring Monday – Let's look at Trash & Coastal Cleanup Day

Join us each Monday as the Clean Water Team shares information and resources on water quality monitoring. This Monday is about trash and Coastal Cleanup Day, the state's largest volunteer event.

In 1985, California's first Coastal Cleanup Day was held. This event which stretched along the coast of California from the border of Oregon down to Mexico, ignited 2,500 volunteers for the statewide cleanup effort. The event grew rapidly in the subsequent years: Over its 35+ year history, almost 1.6 million volunteers have removed more than 24 million pounds of debris from our state's beaches, lakes, and waterways.



Trash discarded on land frequently makes its way into streams, creeks, rivers, and eventually the ocean, as rainstorms wash it into gutters and storm drains. Trash in our waters is a pollution problem that impacts human health and safety, endangers wildlife and aquatic habitats, and costs local and national economies millions in wasted resources and lost revenues. California residents and tourists love our coast and ocean, making more than 150 million visits to California beaches each year. The effort to keep our shorelines clear of marine debris comes at a significant cost. A 2012 study determined that 90 west coast communities

spend a total of more than \$520,000,000 each year to combat litter. Trash has been documented to be a threat to wildlife due to entanglement, ingestion, habitat disruption and effect other beneficial uses.

Reducing trash in waterways is a problem that can be solved with the collected effort of the public, agencies, organizations, and permittees. Just as there are many kinds of trash, there are many methods to prevent it from fouling our waterways such as street sweeping, education programs on littering, and the installation of trash-catching devices on storm drains. Monitoring the effectiveness of these measures is a critical component ensuring that our surface waters and their beneficial uses are protected from trash.

Trash Control in California

www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/trash_control/

Storm Water Program - Trash Implementation Program

www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/trash_implementation.html

Trash-Free Waters Program (USEPA)

www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters

NOAA Marine Debris Program

In 2006, Congress authorized the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) as the U.S. Federal government's lead for addressing marine debris. The MDP achieves its mission through six main pillars: Prevention, Removal, Research, Monitoring and Detection, Response, and Coordination.

<https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>

[Marine Debris Education Newsletter](#)

[NOAA Marine Debris Program Education Resource Collection](#)

MONITORING

California Trash Monitoring Methods and Assessments Playbook

As municipalities and water-quality regulatory agencies have implemented programs and policies to improve management of the trash loading to storm drain conveyances, there has been increased interest in using a common set of methods to quantify the effectiveness of management actions. To create a foundation for developing a consistent, standardized approach to trash monitoring statewide, the project team performed a method comparison analysis, based on two seasons of fieldwork. This analysis facilitated the assessment of the accuracy, repeatability, and efficiency of some already developed trash monitoring methodologies already in use, as well as help to investigate a new, innovative method (cf. Fielding Testing Report on trashmonitoring.org). Methods developed by the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) for use in the San Francisco Bay Area were compared to methods developed by the Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) for use in coastal southern California. One of the chief goals of these comparisons was to understand the similarities and differences between the already existing methods for detecting, quantifying, and characterizing trash in selected environments. Readers will find that the data bear out remarkable levels of accuracy and precision with quantitative metrics that help to align methods and

management concerns. Furthermore, the degree of correlation among tested methods were especially high, offering greater opportunities for inter-method comparisons.

The findings of this project are intended for use by public agencies, non-profit organizations, private consultants, and all their various partners in informing a statewide effort to adopt rigorous, standardized monitoring methods to support the State Water Board's Trash Amendments.

<https://www.sfei.org/documents/california-trash-monitoring-methods-and-assessments-playbook>

- California Trash Monitoring Methods Project [Website](#)

Monitoring Considerations for the Trash Amendments

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) have requested Ocean Science Trust develop a guidance document that provides monitoring considerations for the State and Regional Water Boards and municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permittees who are developing plans for trash monitoring in various water bodies.

The audiences for this report include those interested in trash monitoring, with a particular focus on State and Regional Water Board Staff responsible for writing, reading, and reviewing MS4 permits, as well as monitoring personnel. Thus the report provides a high-level overview of the challenges and opportunities of monitoring the discharge of trash and trash loads in receiving waters. This report synthesizes lessons-learned from past and current trash monitoring efforts and translates these results into guidance that may be considered in the context of monitoring considerations outlined within the Trash Amendments.

www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/trash_implementation/monit_considerations_trash_amend_July2017v2.pdf

Trash Monitoring Workgroup

The mission of the California Trash Monitoring Workgroup (Trash Workgroup) is to support current practices and advances in trash monitoring and the development of data analysis and visualization tools aimed at assessing the effectiveness of policies and practices for limiting the amounts of trash in the environment. This mission will be fulfilled by providing a forum for discussion, coordination, and technical exchanges by a variety of organizations, including government agencies, academic institutions, and non-governmental agencies. The Trash Workgroup will review current policies and practices for reducing trash and the use of monitoring data to improve the knowledge needed to accomplish the goals of this group and to inform policy makers and those affected

https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/trash_monitoring/index.html

Trash, Litter and Garbage – Section 4.3 of the Clean Water Team Compendium

www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/cwt_guidance.html#40

- Trash Fact Sheet
www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/cwt/guidance/431.pdf
- Rapid Trash Assessment Procedure & Worksheets
www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/cwt/guidance/4311.pdf
- Conducting Rapid Trash Assessments
www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/cwt/guidance/4311b.pdf

- Marine Debris: The Urban-Coastal Connection Lesson Plan
https://brownfields-toolbox.org/download/office_of_water/Marine%20Debris-The%20Urban-Coastal%20Connection%20Lesson%20Plan.pdf

CA TRASH DATA DIVE



The [California Trash Data Dive](#) is an annual forum for data scientists, environmental planners, trash regulators, land use experts, and advocates for environmental justice to discuss and collaborate on trash data & policy. The goal of the Data Dive is to use trash data effectively to drive improved and equitable social and environmental outcomes. <https://cawaterboarddatacenter.github.io/trash-data-dive-2021/> Join the California Trash Monitoring Workgroup! Instructions to receive email updates from this workgroup are available on the [workgroup website](#).

Attend upcoming trash data events! Email [Corey Clatterbuck](#) to be added to a trash data event mailing list.

[Trash Datathon Resources](#)

VIDEOS

Trash Monitoring Webinar Series – 2021

The goal of this [webinar series](#) was to share our current collective knowledge to support current practices and advances in trash monitoring and the development of data analysis and visualization tools aimed at assessing the effectiveness of policies and practices for limiting the amounts of trash in the environment. The webinar series was sponsored by the [Trash Monitoring Workgroup](#) and the [California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network](#).

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvTjRb8VCkp567OthYEIIFmRV5irO6yVS

Coastal Cleanup Day - Marine Debris Report to the Coastal Commission 2018

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVFijvKlnOY&feature=emb_logo

Monitoring Trash, TMDLs and Efforts Towards Compliance

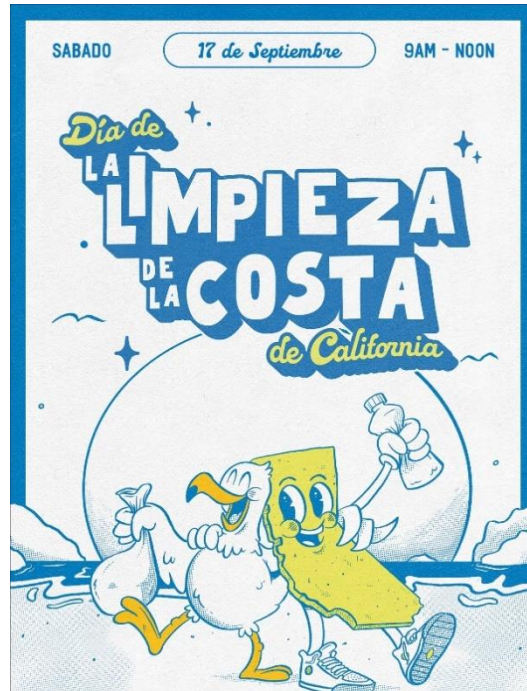
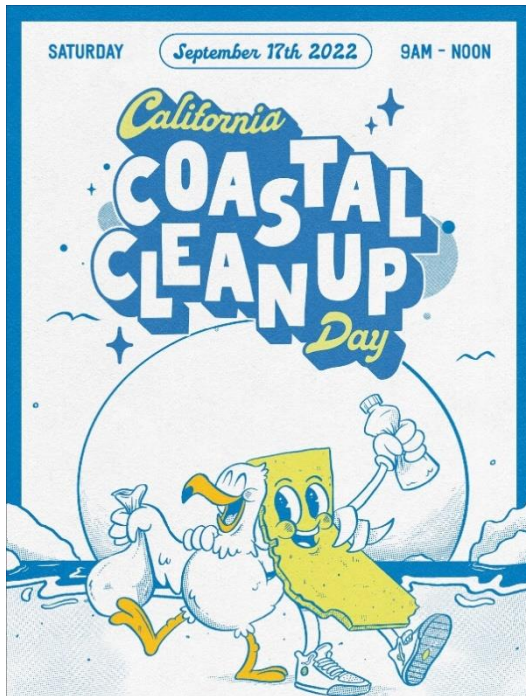
www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQ1-WCYPvH4&t=27s

Trash Polluting Aquatic Resources (Playlist)

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMSa5d-ill6Mj3lh3mOHFDligeH7wS1Gs



California Coastal Cleanup Day September 17, 2022



The California Coastal Commission is happy to announce that the 38th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day will take place Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 9am to Noon in most locations. Please check the map below to choose your cleanup site and for more details. Information is still coming in from around the state and this map will be updated regularly in the coming weeks, so if you don't see a site near you, please check back again soon.

While Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted in many locations around the state, the health and safety of our volunteers remains our top priority. Please do not attend the cleanup if you have recently tested positive for Covid-19 or are experiencing any [symptoms](#) of Covid.

You're busy that Saturday morning? You can still participate in Coastal Cleanup! Clean up your neighborhood, parks, and local area anytime during the month of September. Trash from inland areas flows downstream to the coast, so cleaning up neighborhood trash prevents marine debris. Gather cleanup supplies from home, download the [CleanSwell app](#) (to count your trash, and to have your trash counted!), and clean on your own time. All cleanups that take place during September will count towards our statewide goals.

Also check out our [Adopt-a-Beach](#) program to make your cleanups count all year long.
www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html

California Coastal Cleanup Day – History, Data, Action, and Community Engagement (Video – with Eng & Spanish Subtitles Available)

California's beaches and inland waterways are collection spots for trash. The public is increasingly concerned about ocean trash and plastic pollution and eager to do something about it! The cleanup offers a way for volunteers to respond to the threat of trash in our environment. They do this by removing trash before the winter rains arrive and wash it out to the ocean, where it harms marine life and our shared ecosystem.

Held annually on the third Saturday in September, at more than 1,000 sites across California Coastal Cleanup Day is the state's largest volunteer program. It supports the environment, engages tens of thousands of people annually (74,410 volunteers on September 21, 2019), and has removed over 25 million pounds of trash from our beaches, shorelines, and inland waterways for over 35 years.

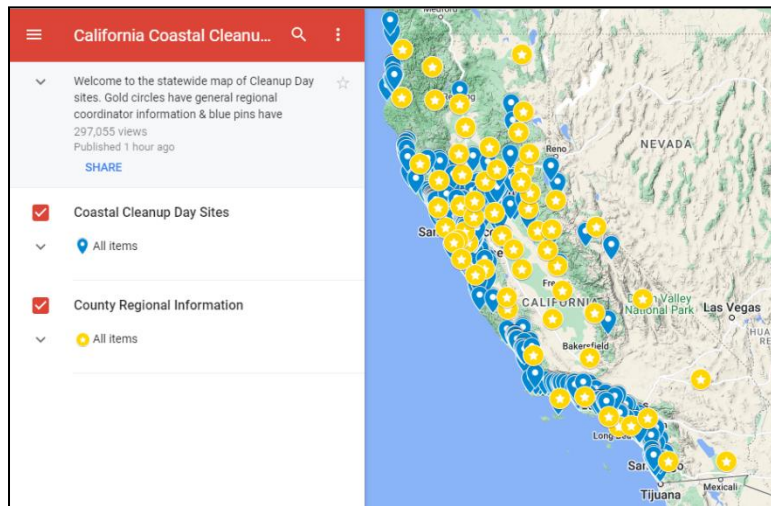
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLdYrRxvWg&t=1s

California Coastal Cleanup Day History & Data www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/history.html

Explore a Storymap of 35 Years of California Coastal Cleanup Day

<https://coastalcomm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=de6a98eb91a24bd3ab51826f5e8eb7d2>

Join a Cleanup! <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/cleanups.html>



Statewide map of Cleanup Day sites.

Gold circles have general regional coordinator information & blue pins have individual cleanup site information.

www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1qwCVkxWP-ZZIMgfSXc5SJ-ZZ1UY&hl=en&ll=37.717306121034284%2C-120.4990358910039&z=5



2022 International Coastal Cleanup on September 17!

For more than 35 years, 17 million volunteers have joined the International Coastal Cleanup to collect more than 350 million pounds of plastic and debris, all the while recording what they find and helping inform research and legislation across the world. Join on September 17 and beyond to clean up your local beach, stream, park, or neighborhood. No matter where you are, you can help ocean creatures enjoy a trash free home. When we clean up our home, all those that live in the ocean can

#SeatheChange. <https://oceanconservancy.org/trash-free-seas/international-coastal-cleanup/icc/>



Join the International Coastal Cleanup from anywhere in the world! [Use our map to find a coordinator planning a cleanup in your region.](#) Want something closer to home? Go out by yourself or with friends and family to cleanup your favorite beach or beloved park. Trash travels, so even picking up litter off a city sidewalk can help protect wildlife and communities that depend on clean waterways. Learn how you can organize [a fun and safe cleanup here.](#)

While you're out making a difference, make sure to track your trash with our [Clean Swell® app!](#) With this app you can easily record each item of trash you collect, which helps scientists and advocates around the world tackle ocean trash at a global scale. Your cleanup can power long lasting solutions for plastic pollution.

Share how you #SeaTheChange on social media! You can find Ocean Conservancy on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Stay up to date on the International Coastal Cleanup and ways you can become an ocean advocate by texting "ICC" to 69866 .

Want to continue to #SeaTheChange after the International Coastal Cleanup? Visit [Ocean Conservancy's Action Center](#) to learn how you can use your voice for our ocean every day of the year.

Erick Burres
[Clean Water Team Coordinator](#)
[California Water Quality Collaboration Network Facilitator](#)
[Safe to Swim Network Co-facilitator](#)
erick.burres@waterboards.ca.gov
213 712 6862 mobile
Mailing address:
Erick Burres – Clean Water Team
C/O SARWQCB
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3348

