

Join us #SeaTheChange

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

21 September 2024





INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP (ICC) DAY is a global event dedicated to preserving our oceans and coastlines. It was initiated by the Ocean Conservancy in 1986 as a grassroots effort to address the growing problem of marine pollution. Every year, millions of volunteers worldwide come together to clean up beaches, waterways, and other coastal areas, removing tons of trash and debris. The event aims to raise awareness about the harmful effects of pollution on marine ecosystems and to promote sustainable practices that protect our oceans for future generations.

Ocean trash poses significant risks to wildlife, human health, and local economies. Every year, around 11 million metric tons of plastic waste enter the ocean from land-based sources, and this number could more than double by 2040 without urgent action. To combat this growing issue, we need to change how we produce, use, and dispose of plastics. Since marine debris originates from human activities, people also hold the solution. Reducing plastic use, especially single-use items, and improving waste management systems can significantly decrease ocean plastic pollution.

“Marine debris isn’t an ocean problem—it’s a people problem.
That means people are the solution.”

This global initiative, which happens every 3rd Saturday of September each year, has brought together more than 17 million volunteers, collecting more than 160 million kilos of trash since its inception.

TOP 10 ITEMS COLLECTED IN 2022

 Cigarette butts
1,860,651

 Plastic bottles
1,175,045

 Food wrappers
998,661

 Plastic bottle caps
844,375

 Plastic grocery bags
622,780

 Other plastic bags
567,763

 Foam food containers
463,269

 Plastic food containers
425,637

 Paper cups, plates
423,551

 Plastic straws/stirrers
406,557

Charting a Course to Plastic-Free Beaches

Focusing on the plastic wastes collected by volunteers, the Ocean Conservancy offers tools and strategies to achieve plastic-free beaches:

- **Reduce plastic pollution** by banning or limiting single-use plastics and encourage reusable items like bags and straws
- **Redesign plastic products** to minimize unnecessary packaging, promoting reusable and recyclable materials, and improving recycling systems
- **Hold plastic producers financially accountable** for the environmental impact of their products

This September 21st, join us for the 2024 International Coastal Cleanup Day and #SeaTheChange!

MORE WAYS TO HELP!

Conduct outreach and education:

Educate the next generation about ocean trash and how to prevent it.

Be a steward of ocean, lakes, and waterways: As a boater or marina operator, lead the community in protecting the bodies of water.

Learn more about ICC at <https://oceanconservancy.org/>






REGIONAL INTEGRATED MULTI-HAZARD EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (RIMES) FOR AFRICA AND ASIA

An intergovernmental institution dedicated to building climate and disaster risk management capacities for climate and disaster-resilient development towards a forearmed, forewarned, and resilient communities.



To learn more about RIMES, scan the QR Code or go to linktr.ee/rimes.int

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