

Our ocean is not a garbage can



Building Community Capacity to Reduce Marine Litter

Why this matters to you:

In 2010, over 380,000 tonnes of plastic waste from Canada, Mexico and the United States ended up in the world's oceans. Plastic waste in water damages ecosystems and kills marine life, threatening our food supplies, tourism, the fishing industry, and our economies.

Given that approximately 80 percent of all marine litter originates on land, the CEC is building capacity in North American coastal communities to prevent and reduce litter before it ends up in our oceans. Managing this pollution is complex and must include local action and collaboration at the watershed level.

CANADA, MEXICO, AND THE UNITED STATES ARE WORKING TOGETHER WITH LOCAL AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES TO IMPLEMENT SIMPLE, AFFORDABLE ACTIONS TO PREVENT MARINE LITTER ACROSS NORTH AMERICA.



Because of the CEC...

- Canada, Mexico and the United States now have a joint approach to reduce marine litter in shared watersheds.
- Local communities now have data identifying local, land-based sources of marine litter (including microplastics) that will help reduction efforts.
- We have identified and implemented actions with coastal communities in the Salish Sea (US-Canada border) and Tijuana River (US-Mexico border), and provided them with the tools to prevent their trash from becoming marine litter.

For more information: www.cec.org/marinelitter

Contact: **Catherine Hallmich**, challmich@cec.org