

Lead based fabric blouses, sweaters, etc. discharged into the water from land areas. Sources include:

beachgoers; fishermen; materials manufacturers, processors, and transporters; shore-based solid waste

pathogens such as streptococci, fecal coliform, and other bacterial contamination

Consumption or contact with water polluted with these pathogens can result in infectious hepatitis, diarrhea, bacillary dysentery, skin rashes, and even typhoid and cholera.

Aesthetic and Economic Impacts

Clean and safe beaches promote tourism and economic health. Litter makes shorelines unattractive and potentially hazardous, and forces communities to spend funds to increase beach maintenance. The

Can Marine Debris be Prevented, Reduced, or Controlled?

Marine debris is one of the most pervasive and *solvable* pollution problems plaguing the world's oceans and waterways. Successful management of the problem requires a comprehensive understanding of both

marine debris and human behavior. Education and outreach programs, strong laws and policies, and governmental and private enforcement are the building blocks for a successful marine pollution prevention initiative.

Monitoring and Education/Outreach Programs

On December 31, 1987, the United States ratified Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78). Annex V prohibits the at-sea disposal of plastic wastes and regulates the distance from shore that ships may dump all other solid waste materials. Annex

National Marine Debris Monitoring Program

Through a multi-year cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, The Ocean Conservancy developed and field-tested the National Marine Debris Monitoring Program (NMDMP). This

marine debris legislation. NMDMP assesses several aspects of debris, including accumulation rates,

Annex V is of particular importance to the maritime community because it prohibits the disposal of plastic materials at sea and regulates the disposal of other garbage at sea. Under Annex V, garbage includes food and domestic and operational waste – excluding fresh fish – generated during normal vessel operations and liable to be disposed of continuously or periodically. Annex V also requires ports and terminals to provide garbage reception facilities for boats and ships. Ships of signatory nations must abide by Annex V regulations at all times in all waters; ships from non-signatory nations must abide by

Chiappone, M. A., White, D. W., Sweeney, and S. L. Miller (in press). Commerce and Habitat Use of the

