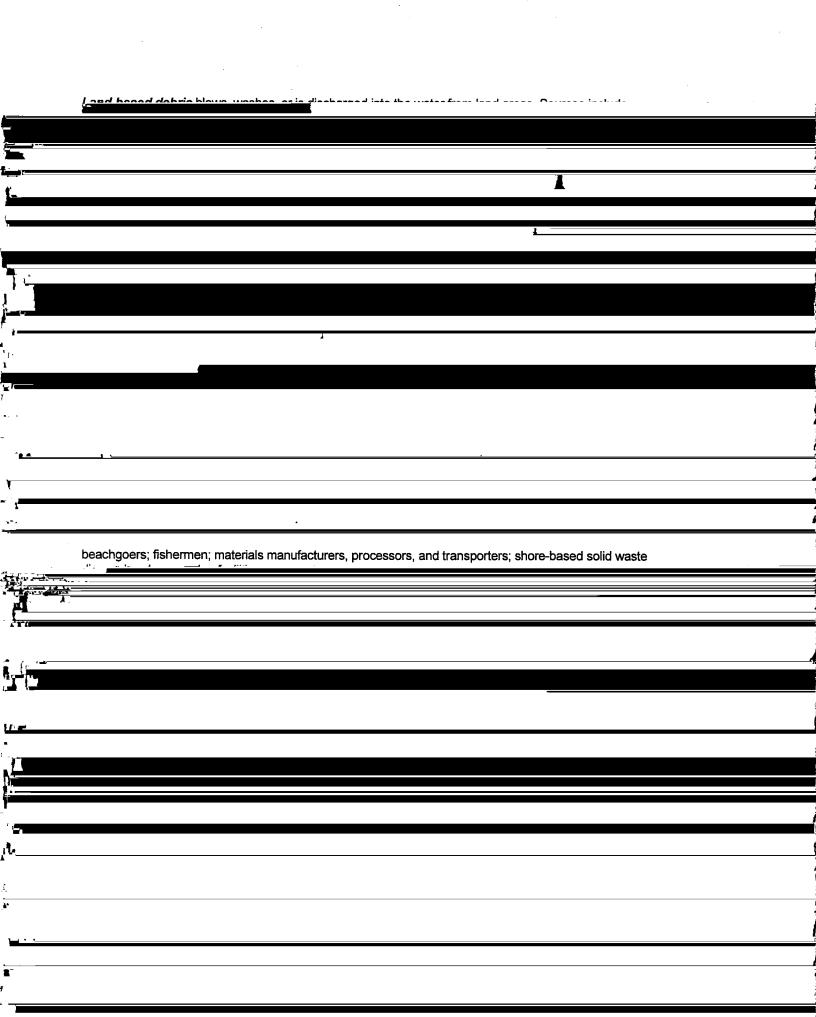


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"Marine Debris — an Overview of a Critical Issue for Our Oceans"

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	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 heaches promote tourism and economic health. Litter makes shorelines unattractive and
	Clean and safe beaches promote tourism and economic health. Litter makes shorelines unattractive and
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	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
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	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
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	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					
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	marine debris legislation. NMDMP assesses several aspects of debris, including accumulation rates,					
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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

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