

# PROTECT OUR SEAS FROM MARINE DEBRIS

Marine debris is a serious threat to oceans. Plastic is a particular issue because of its lightness and longevity. Over 8 million tonnes of 'stuff' from our daily lives enters the world's oceans each year. This debris endangers wildlife, destroys habitats, and enters our food chain.

The good news is that we can all make a difference by making small changes to our daily behaviours. Think about the items you use daily and aim to reduce your waste.

**#togetherforouroceans**

Volunteers collected and reported more than 67,000 litter items from around Townsville and Magnetic Island, from 2008 to 2017. The items here are regularly reported through the Tangaroa Blue Foundation's Australian Marine Debris Initiative database. You can help take action.

## CHOOSE REUSABLES

**62%** of items found around the Townsville region are plastic, including many disposable items that we could avoid.



## SIP WITHOUT A STRAW



Easy way to avoid plastic you will use for **10 MINUTES!**

## RECYCLE YOUR RECYCLABLES!

More than **7600** aluminium cans and glass bottles have been collected from Townsville coastlines and waterways.



## PICK UP BEACH LITTER!

An estimated **64%** of litter from clean-ups appears to be from local, land-based sources.



## IT'S NOT JUST POPULATED AREAS!

Marine debris can wash up on remote beaches and islands



## BIN YOUR BUTTS

Cigarette butts are the **3<sup>RD</sup>** most common litter item from clean ups.



Findings from 48 clean ups, reported from 2008-2017 by:

Annadale Christian College, Australian Institute of Marine Science, Bahamas Plastic Movement, Breakthru People Solutions, Clean Coast Collective, Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc, Conservation Volunteers Australia QLD (CVA), Department of Natural Resources and Mines QLD, Girringun Aboriginal Rangers, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), Green Army QLD, Ignatius Park College, James Cook University (JCU), Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation, Magnetic Island National Park Volunteer Group, Magnetic Island State School, Mount Louisa Scouts, NQ Dry Tropics NRM, Oceanwatch Australia Ltd QLD, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS), Reef Check Australia, Reef Guardian School's Future Leaders Eco Challenge (FLEC), Rollingstone State School, Sea Turtle Foundation, Seaside Scavenge, Tangaroa Blue Foundation, Townsville City Council.

This infographic was created by Reef Check Australia with the following partners:

