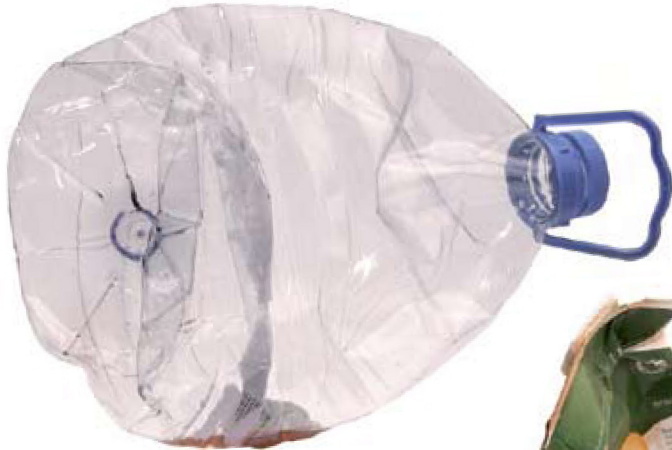


THE MOST DANGEROUS SPECIES OF OUR COASTS AND LAGOONS



The plastic demijohn
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: can cause serious, even fatal intestinal blockages in marine animals if swallowed.
Average lifespan: 400 to 600 years.



The battery
Origin: streets, streams and boats.
Behaviour: discharges liquids that are highly toxic for marine animals and plants.
Average lifespan: more than 1000 years.



The condom
Origin: toilets, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes serious digestive problems in animals that swallow it.
Average lifespan: 30 years.



The plastic bottle
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: can cause fatal intestinal blockages in marine animals that swallow it.
Average lifespan: 300 to 500 years.



The carton
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: damages and smothers organisms growing on the sea bed.
Average lifespan: 25 to 50 years.



The paper bag
Origin: beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes digestive problems among certain sea creatures if eaten.
Average lifespan: 4 weeks.



The tin can
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes cuts among swimmers and damages and smothers marine life growing on the sea floor.
Average lifespan: 200 to 500 years.



The plastic bag
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: often mistaken for a jellyfish (the favourite food of turtles), it causes severe, potentially fatal intestinal blockages in marine animals if eaten.
Average lifespan: 35 to 60 years.



The cigarette butt
Origin: toilets, streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes serious digestive problems for marine animals if swallowed.
Average lifespan: 10 years.



The plastic ring
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: entangles marine organisms, causing serious injuries or death by asphyxiation.
Average lifespan: 450 years.



The bottle cap
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes serious digestive problems for marine animals if swallowed.
Average lifespan: 300 years.



The food wrapper
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: larger specimens smother organisms growing on the sea bed; smaller specimens cause serious digestive problems among marine animals if swallowed.
Average lifespan: 20 to 30 years.



Aluminium foil
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: damages and smothers organisms growing on the sea bed.
Average lifespan: 5 years.



Diesel and engine oil
Origin: boats.
Behaviour: very toxic, destroys marine habitats (seagrass, mangroves, corals, etc.) and the small animals and plants living there.
Average lifespan: depends on the amount discharged.



The glass bottle
Origin: streets, streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: causes cuts and serious injuries among swimmers.
Average lifespan: more than 1000 years.



The aluminium foil plate
Origin: streams, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: damages and smothers organisms growing on the sea bed.
Average lifespan: 10 years.



The sanitary pad
Origin: toilets, beaches and boats.
Behaviour: similar to the disposable nappy – blocks the intestines, sometimes killing marine animals that swallow them.
Average lifespan: 25 years.

Every day, around the world, 8 million tonnes of waste end up in our oceans — all as a result of human actions. All this rubbish comes from toilets, streets, streams and beaches; some is thrown directly into the sea. It destroys marine life. You can prevent this destruction by always throwing your rubbish into a rubbish bin or an appropriate place.

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW — PROTECT MARINE LIFE!



From an original poster created by SMALL for the Generalitat de Catalunya