

MARINE DEBRIS IS A PROBLEM THAT WE CANNOT IGNORE.

WHAT IS MARINE DEBRIS?

Marine debris is any man-made, solid material that enters our waterways. It may enter our ocean from people's activities on land or in the ocean. One form of debris is derelict fishing gear. This may be nets, pots, or other fishing equipment that is abandoned or lost from fishing vessels or is left unattended in the marine environment. At first, people who removed marine debris disposed of it in landfills, but they found a better disposal alternative.



IMPACTS FROM MARINE DEBRIS

Potential impacts from marine debris are numerous. Marine debris, such as derelict fishing nets, is an eyesore on beaches. Derelict nets can smother and damage underwater habitat such as coral reefs and are entanglement hazards to marine life. Derelict fishing gear can also be a navigational hazard.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...



PARTICIPATE IN A BEACH OR STREAM CLEANUP.

DISPOSE OF TRASH PROPERLY.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, & RECOVER ENERGY FROM WASTE!



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WWW.MARINEDEBRIS.NOAA.GOV/PROJECTS/NETSTOENERGY.HTML

WWW.NFWF.ORG/FISHINGFORENERGY

MARINE DEBRIS to energy



MARINE DEBRIS TO ENERGY



Fishing gear, such as nets and crab pots, is collected.



Marine debris is first sent to Schnitzer Steel's facility, where it is cut into small pieces suitable for combustion. The chopped debris is then transported to a Covanta energy-from-waste facility. In instances where debris does not need to be chopped, it is sent directly to a Covanta Energy facility.



All services are donated by Covanta Energy Corporation and Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. In Hawaii, tipping fees are waived by the City and County of Honolulu. These programs are possible only through the support and efforts of these partners as well as many others.



HAWAII NETS TO ENERGY

In 2002, over a dozen public and private partners in Hawaii joined to form the Nets to Energy Program. A common type of marine debris that can be found in Hawaii is derelict fishing nets. Since Hawaii has no fishery of its own that uses these trawl and seine nets, this debris comes from elsewhere. This unique marine debris-to-energy program takes these derelict nets and uses them to make energy. From 2002 to 2010, over 1.6 million pounds of derelict net were used to create electricity.

FISHING FOR ENERGY



FISHING FOR ENERGY

Using Hawaii's Nets to Energy program as a model, the Fishing for Energy Program was started in 2008. The NOAA Marine Debris Program, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Schnitzer Steel, and Covanta

Energy work together to reduce and prevent marine debris throughout the nation by providing a place for the fishing community to dispose of old or derelict fishing gear at no cost. Metals are recycled and the remaining gear is used to create electricity. In the first three years of this program, over a million pounds of derelict fishing gear was collected.

