

A vertical illustration on the left side of the page shows a dark blue background with white line art. It depicts various pieces of plastic waste, including bottles, cans, and straws, floating in the water. Several sea turtles are also shown, some swimming and others appearing to be entangled in the debris, illustrating the impact of ocean pollution.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The South Carolina Aquarium is committed to conserving water, wildlife and wild places, and we need your help. Together, individual actions can create a wave of positive change in our communities, our state and all who call this world home.

More sea turtles are being admitted to the Sea Turtle Care Center™ due to human-induced impacts.

- Keep nesting sea turtles and hatchlings safe by filling in holes on the beach
- Turn off beach-facing lights from May – September or use turtle-safe bulbs
- Leave no trace on the beach – bring all trash, toys and personal items with you
- Discard your used or broken fishing gear properly

Single-use plastic has a large carbon footprint, litters our communities and harms beloved sea life.

- Substitute plastic straws with metal or paper alternatives
- Use reusable bags and bottles
- Shop for products with less plastic packaging
- Learn proper recycling procedures for your community
- Participate in or host your own litter sweep
- Contribute litter data to the Litter-free Digital Journal located in the South Carolina Aquarium Citizen Science app
- Use your voice to connect and share your concerns with local, state and federal decision-makers

For more information, visit
scaquarium.org/conservation

Rising seas and temperature increases from overconsumption are accelerating climate change impacts in our communities.

- Drive less; carpool, bike or walk more
- Switch to energy-efficient appliances
- Buy local and support businesses that are supporting the environment
- Add more vegetables to your diet, as they require less energy to grow than meat
- Eat seafood sourced from southeast regional fisheries (North Carolina to the east coast of Florida)
- Dine with Good Catch partner restaurants and ask where your seafood is coming from
- Recycle your oyster shells to build new habitats and protect shorelines against erosion
- See if your home is at risk of flooding using our Sea Rise Viewer and plan accordingly
- Contribute your observations of flooding, erosion, saltmarsh impacts and more in the SeaRise Project located in the South Carolina Aquarium Citizen Science app
- Keep storm drains clear of debris
- Create rain gardens and use rain barrels to collect water and prevent flooding

The South Carolina Aquarium is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to inspire conservation of the natural world by exhibiting and caring for animals, excelling in education and research and providing an exceptional visitor experience.

- Visit the Aquarium; we rely on the support of our paying guests, members, foundations and the generosity of our donors to continue our conservation work
- Volunteer with research and fieldwork projects in your community
- Become a South Carolina Aquarium Conservation Assistant
- Share these solutions with others!



**South Carolina
Aquarium**
CONSERVATION

