The Whole Family Can Make a Difference on Our Shorelines:
Trash Clean-Up Activity

We here at the Island County Marine Resources Committee count on community science to monitor our local beaches. Here is a trash clean-up project that you can do with your family to help us learn about the trash that's ending up on our shores.

Step 1: Visit the Island County Marine Resources Committee website at www.islandcountymrc.org to download the Trash Clean-Up Graph PDF to fill out.

Step 2: Collect the trash you find on the beach. Remember to keep yourself safe by following current COVID-19 protocols and do not pick up anything that looks dangerous, like sharp items or needles. If you find a large piece of debris or creosote-treated wood, you can report it to officials using the MyCoast app. Find more info and download the app at mycoast.org/wa.

Step 3: Sort your trash into plastics (including fishing line, Styrofoam, and nylon rope), metal (such as aluminum cans), paper (cardboard, beverage cups), and other. Count how many pieces you have in each category and record your data on the Trash Clean-Up Graph. If you can, take a picture of the trash you've collected.

Step 4: Properly throw away or recycle the trash and admire the clean beach you are leaving behind!

Step 5: Share your graphed results and trash pictures with us on Facebook (be sure to tag @ICEHDNR) or through email (a.prusha@islandcountywa.gov) and help us collect information about trash on our beaches so we can all keep working to make a difference!

Trash Clean-Up Graph

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Location: _____

Number of Pieces

20						
19						
18						
17						
16						
15						
14						
13						
12						
11						
10						
9						
8						
7						
6						
5						
4						
3						
2						
1						

Plastic   **Metal**   **Paper**   **Other**

Trash Categories

ISLAND COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES
COMMITTEE