



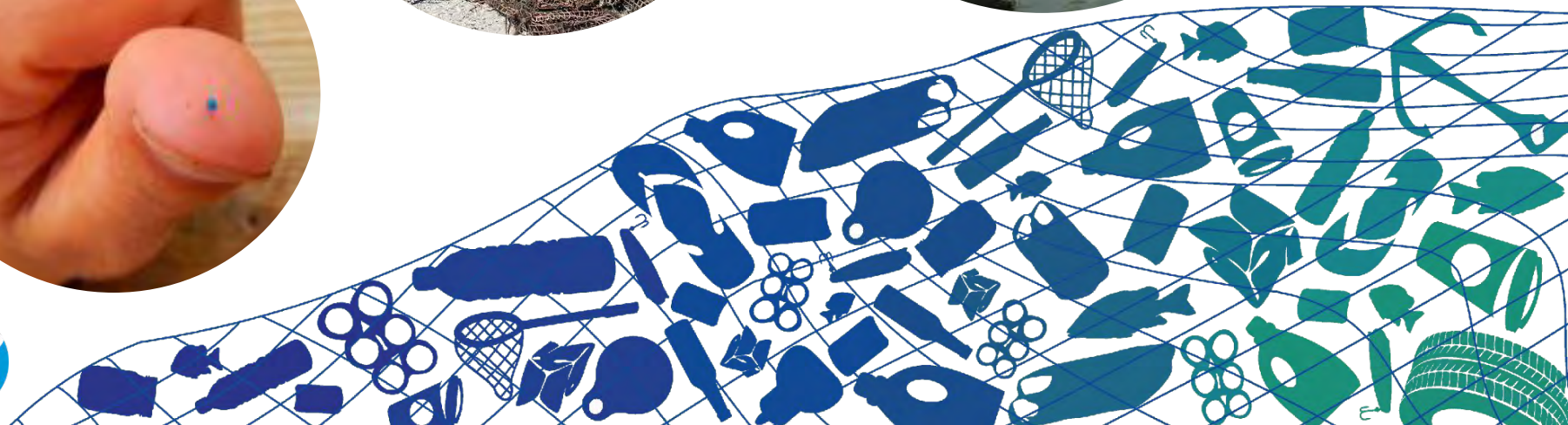
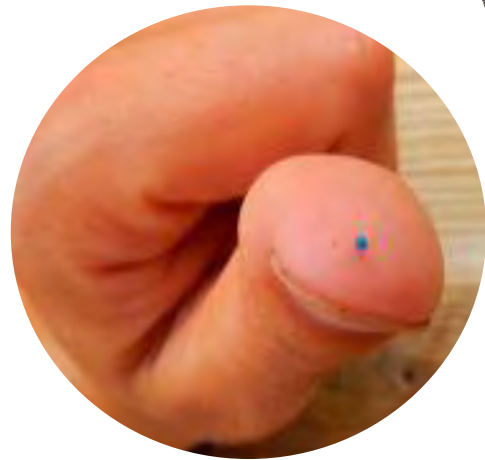
# NOAA Marine Debris Program Overview

Christy Kehoe, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator  
2020 Stormwater Meeting  
February 10, 2020



# What is Marine Debris?

“any persistent solid material that is **manufactured or processed** and **directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally**, disposed of or abandoned into the marine environment or the Great Lakes.”







# Sources of Marine Debris



## Ocean-Based

- Commercial and recreational fishing
- Offshore oil and gas
- Cargo ships
- Abandoned and derelict vessels



## Land-Based

- Littering
- Dumping
- Poor waste management practices
- **Stormwater discharge, run-off**
- Extreme weather events

# Impacts

- Wildlife entanglement
- Ingestion and chemical uptake
- Vessel damage and navigational hazard
- Invasive species
- Economic loss:
  - Tourism
  - Recreation
  - Fisheries
  - Vessel damage
- Ghost fishing
- Habitat destruction



# NOAA Marine Debris Program Overview

Established in **2006** by Congress as the federal lead for marine debris

**Vision:** the global ocean and its coasts free from the impacts of marine debris

**Mission:** to investigate and prevent the adverse impacts of marine debris



# Marine Debris Act + Amendments

- Identify, determine sources of, assess, prevent, reduce, and **remove** marine debris
- Provide national and regional **coordination**
- Reduce adverse impacts of lost and discarded fishing gear
- Conduct **outreach and education**
- Address “**severe marine debris events**”

# Save Our Seas Act

- Reauthorizes the Program and appropriation level of \$10M
- Emphasizes **interagency collaboration, emergency response, interagency action**
- Allows MDP to **declare severe marine debris events**
- Establishes **Interior** and **State** as official members of the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee
- **Save our Seas 2.0...**





# Program Pillars

- Research
- Regional Coordination
- Response
- Removal
- Prevention





# MDP-funded Projects in the Mid-Atlantic





# Research

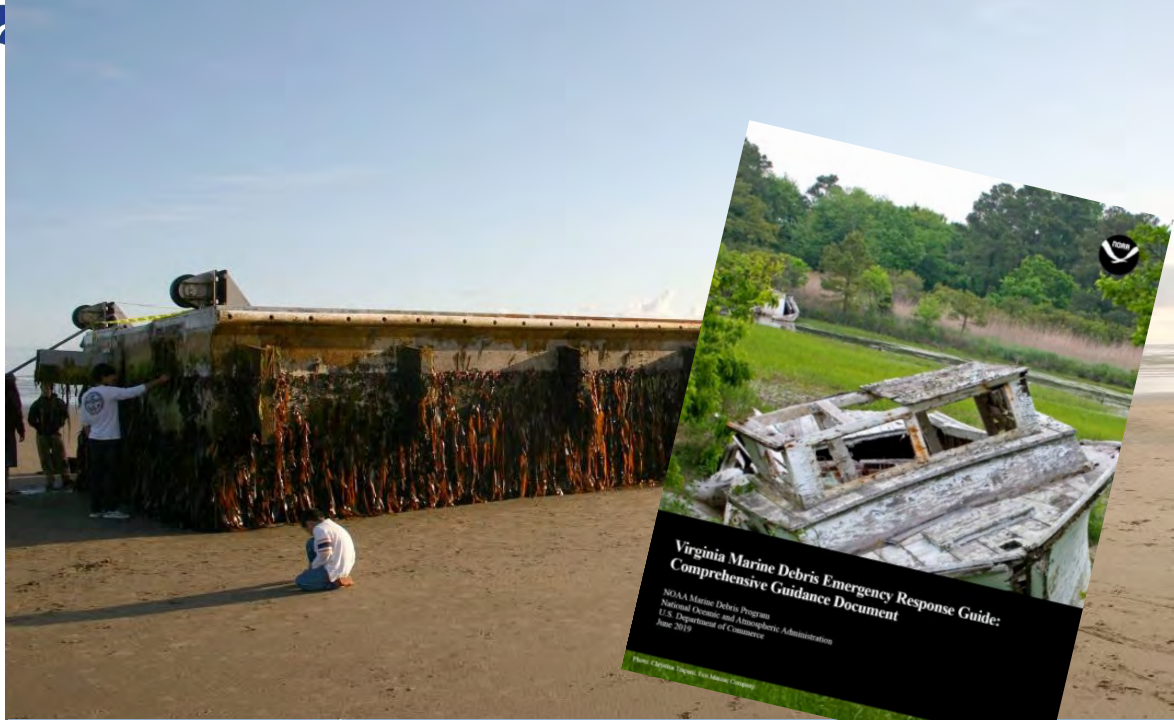
- Joint projects with academia, NOAA partners
- Ecological Risk Assessment
- Exposure/Response Analysis
- Economic impacts
- Fate and Transport
- Shoreline monitoring and assessment at over 330 sites





# Response

- Debris can threaten **navigation, natural resources, and human safety**
- Responded to **extreme weather** events
- Support, Coordination, and Guidance during emergency response
- Incident response guides for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and the Pacific Northwest

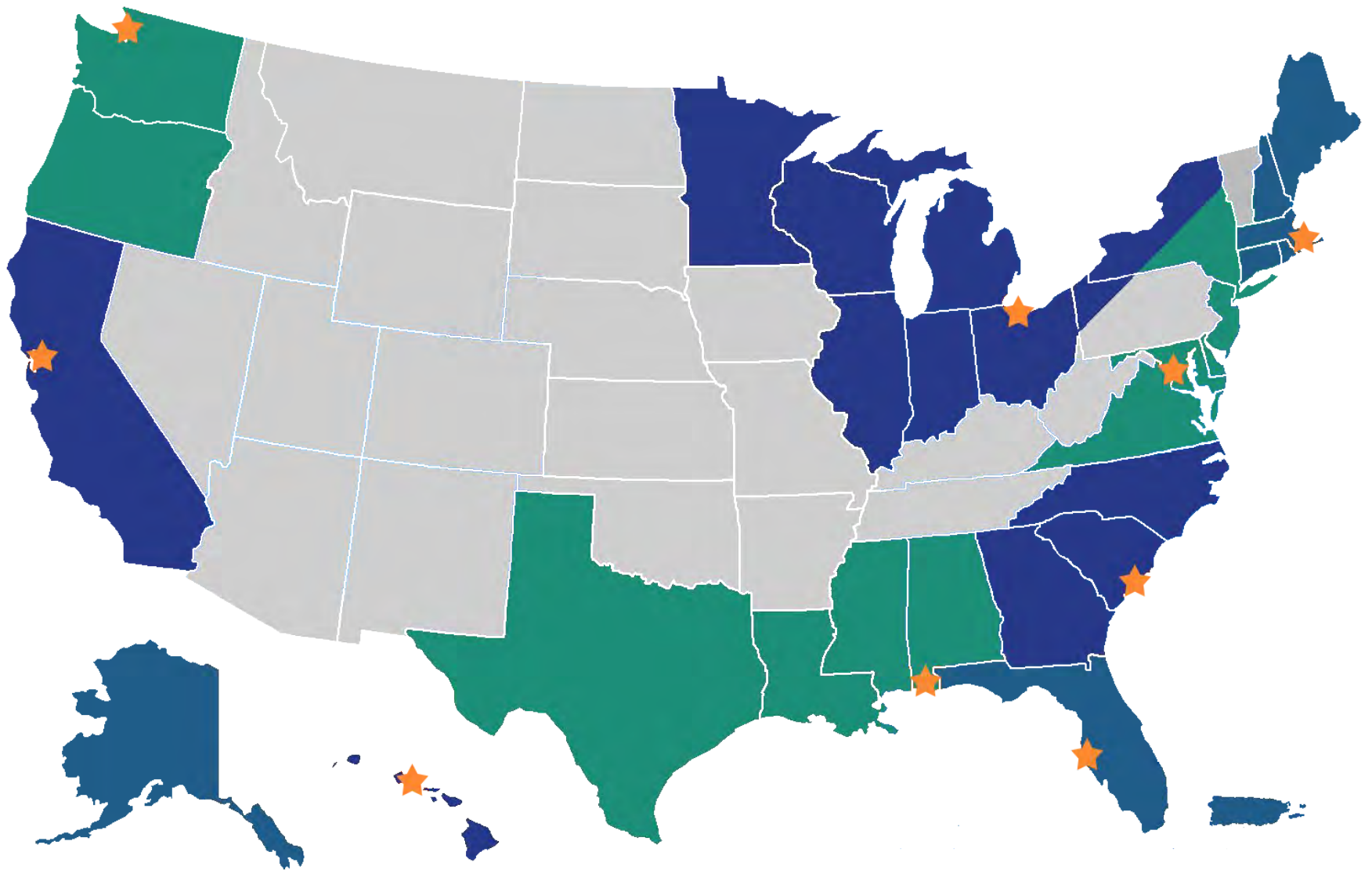


Virginia Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide:  
Comprehensive Guidance Document  
NOAA Marine Debris Program  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
June 2019





# Regional Coordination





# Removal

- **Community-based** marine debris removal grants
- Grants support removal projects **nationwide**
- Recipients include NGOs and local governments
- Funded more than 100 removal projects since 2006, with **more than 8,700 metric tons of debris** removed





# Prince George County: Trash Removal Project in the Anacostia River Watershed



## PROJECT DETAILS

**Funding Year:** 2017  
**State/Territory Coverage:** Maryland  
**Start Date:** 10/02/2017  
**Stop Date:** 09/30/2020  
**Status:** Open  
**Project Category:** Removal  
**Region:** Mid-Atlantic  
**Debris Type(s):** Consumer Debris  
**Activities:** Education  
Monitoring  
Outreach  
Prevention  
Removal

## BUDGET

**Federal Funding:** \$150,000.00  
**Non-Federal Match:** \$180,000.00  
**Total Cost:** \$330,000.00



# Prevention

- Education
- Turning off the tap
- Create lasting and measurable **behavior change**
- Work directly with students, teachers, fishermen, restaurants, and other businesses
- School Activities
  - **Annual art contest** for K-8<sup>th</sup> grades
  - Curriculum, educational activities, and teacher workshops







# Coastal States Stewardship Foundation: Marine Debris Prevention through Education and Outreach (Joyful Send-off) Campaign



## PROJECT DETAILS

**Funding Year:** 2018

**State/Territory Coverage:** Delaware  
District of Columbia  
Maryland  
New Jersey  
New York  
Virginia

**Start Date:** 08/01/2018

**Stop Date:** 07/31/2021

**Status:** Open

**Project Category:** Prevention

**Region:** Mid-Atlantic

**Debris Type(s):** Consumer Debris

**Activities:** Education  
Monitoring  
Outreach  
Prevention

## BUDGET

**Federal Funding:** \$145,607.00

**Non-Federal Match:** \$180,353.00

**Total Cost:** \$325,960.00



# Trash Free Maryland: Trash Pollution Solutions, A Community-Based Approach for Baltimore City (CLOSED)



## PROJECT DETAILS

**Funding Year:** 2016

**State/Territory Coverage:** Maryland

**Start Date:** 10/01/2016

**Stop Date:** 06/30/2019

**Status:** Closed

**Project Category:** Prevention

**Region:** Mid-Atlantic

**Debris Type(s):** Consumer Debris

**Activities:** Education  
Monitoring  
Outreach  
Prevention

## BUDGET

**Federal Funding:** \$80,000.00

**Non-Federal Match:** \$80,514.00

**Total Cost:** \$160,514.00



# MDP-Funded National Activities





# Surfrider: Hold on to Your Butt Cigarette Litter Prevention Project



## PROJECT DETAILS

Funding Year: 2018

State/Territory Coverage: California

Start Date: 08/01/2018

Stop Date: 07/31/2021

Status: Open

Project Category: Prevention

Region: California

Debris Type(s): Consumer Debris

Activities: Education  
Monitoring  
Outreach  
Prevention  
Removal

## BUDGET

Federal Funding: \$150,105.00

Non-Federal Match: \$176,187.00

Total Cost: \$326,292.00



# Mobile Baykeeper: Moving Toward a Litter-free Mardi Gras In Mobile (CLOSED)



## PROJECT DETAILS

Funding Year: 2017

State/Territory Coverage: Alabama

Start Date: 08/02/2017

Stop Date: 08/01/2019

Status: Closed

Project Category: Removal

Region: Gulf of Mexico

Debris Type(s): Consumer Debris

Derelict Fishing Gear - Line

Derelict Fishing Gear - Trap

Activities: Assessment

Removal


## BUDGET

Federal Funding: \$56,013.00

Non-Federal Match: \$56,020.00

Total Cost: \$112,033.00



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### Funding Opportunities


The NOAA Marine Debris Program offers several nationwide, competitive funding opportunities for marine debris projects. These include: removal, prevention, and research grants.

### Open Opportunities

- No open opportunities at this time

### Special Funding Opportunity: Hurricane Response Marine Debris Removal Fund

With financial support from the NOAA Marine Debris Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is seeking applications for \$10 million in grants to remove damaging marine debris from impacted coastal areas of communities. The program will primarily fund projects that will assess, remove, and dispose of marine debris in communities within North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This opportunity is now closed.



### Community-based Marine Debris Removal Grants

The Marine Debris Program offers funding that supports locally driven, community-based marine debris removal projects. These projects benefit coastal habitat, waterways, and wildlife including migratory fish. View removal projects funded in fiscal year 2019.

### Marine Debris Prevention Grants

The Marine Debris Program provides funding to prevent the introduction of marine debris into the marine and coastal environment. Projects awarded through this grant competition will actively engage and educate a target audience in hands-on programs designed to raise awareness, reduce barriers to marine debris prevention (e.g., lack of access to waste receptacles or alternatives to single-use items), and encourage and support changes in behaviors to ensure long-term prevention of marine debris. View prevention projects funded in fiscal year 2018.

### Marine Debris Research Grants

Marine debris is a relatively new field of research, and there are many opportunities to advance understanding of how debris impacts the environment. The MDP offers funding for original, hypothesis-driven research projects focused on the ecological risk assessment, exposure studies, and fate and transport of marine debris. View projects funded in fiscal year 2019.

### Fishing for Energy Grants

The NOAA MDP supports marine debris projects through its *Fishing for Energy* partnership. You can read more about the program and find open grant opportunities [here](#). View projects funded in fiscal year 2018.

### Resources - Links

- [Proposal Submission Guidance for Applicants](#)

### Resources - Downloads

- [FY20 Marine Debris Prevention Federal Funding Opportunity](#)
- [FY20 Marine Debris Removal Federal Funding Opportunity](#)

### On Our Radar

- [Marine Debris Tracker](#)
- [Monitoring Debris](#)
- [Tourism Economic Study](#)
- [TRASH TALK VIDEO](#)
- [Hurricane Clean-up](#)

**Funding:** [marinedebris.noaa.gov/funding/funding-opportunities](https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/funding/funding-opportunities)





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## Marine Debris in the Mid-Atlantic



Marine debris in the mid-Atlantic region is very often tied to the Chesapeake Bay. The NOAA Marine Debris Program works on efforts to prevent debris from entering the Bay through research and outreach, minimizing impacts to the people who enjoy it and the animals rely on it for survival. But we're not solely focused on the Chesapeake Bay; we work with a strong network of partners throughout the region who work hard to protect the Delaware Bay, as well as groups that clean the many miles of sandy, Atlantic Coast beaches that are vital to tourism.



### Current Projects

- Marine Debris Removal in Jamaica Bay Salt Marshes
- Risk from Microplastics Exposure to Blue Crab Larvae in Delaware Bay and Coastal Waters
- Do microplastics increase disease susceptibility in steelhead trout?
- Understanding the Fate and Transport of Microplastics at Buoyant River Outflows
- Reducing Balloon Litter Through Education and Outreach with the Joyful Send-off Campaign



### Reports and Materials

- Maryland Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide
- Virginia Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide
- Virginia Marine Debris Reduction Plan
- Effects of Derelict Fishing Gear in the Chesapeake Bay Assessment Report
- Fishing for Energy
- Assessing Ecological and Economic Effects of Derelict Fishing Gear: A Guiding Framework



### Hot Topics

- In April, 52 representatives from 15 states, four federal agencies, and Canada gathered at NOAA's Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center for a workshop on abandoned and derelict vessels (7).
- States impacted by Sandy continue to remove debris with NOAA's support.
- Find information on NOAA's Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project.

[Abandoned and Derelict Vessel information](#)

**Mid-Atlantic Marine Debris Page:** <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/mid-atlantic>  
**Monthly E-Newsletter:** [marinedebris.noaa.gov/our-work/marine-debris-news](https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/our-work/marine-debris-news)





## Questions

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