

Abandoned Beach Equipment



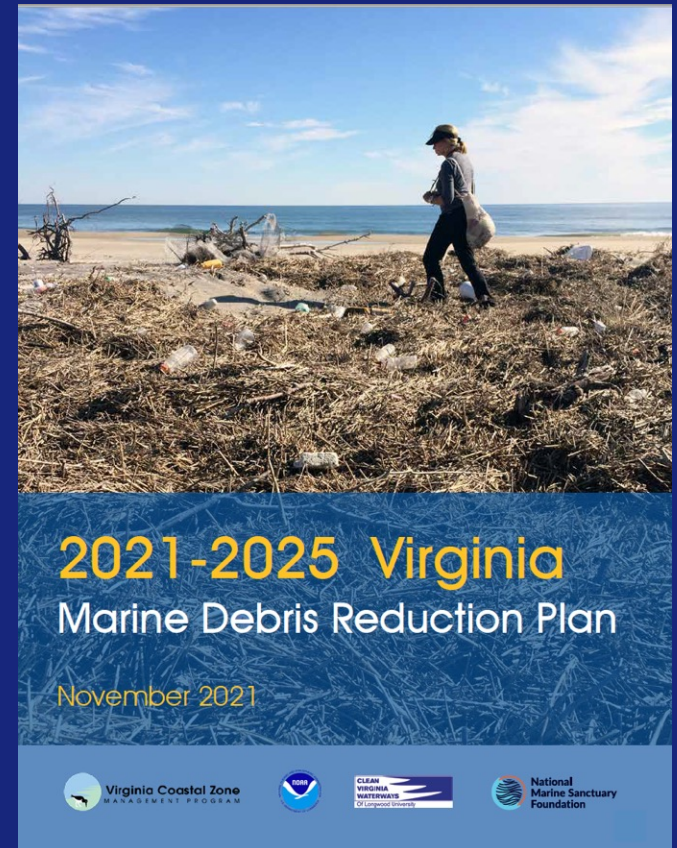
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Clean Virginia Waterways
Prepared for the Virginia Marine Debris Summit, September 27, 2022

From Navarre Beach, Florida

Virginia Marine Debris Reduction Plan

Understand, Prevent and Mitigate Litter & Marine Debris from four categories.

The “Consumer Debris” category: includes all items intentionally or unintentionally disposed of incorrectly.



2021

A photograph of a beach at sunset. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a thin layer of orange and red light from the setting sun visible on the horizon. The ocean is calm, reflecting the light from the sky. In the foreground, three folding beach chairs are arranged on the sand. The chairs are made of metal frames with blue and green fabric seats. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

Beach Equipment as marine debris

Items are convenient, foldable, cheap, fragile, but not meant to be “disposable.”

Photo by Kathy O'Hara, Sandbridge, VA

“Get away from it all” by bringing it all with you to the beach.

Inexpensive & often fragile



+6 colors/patterns

Beach Umbrella for Sand Wind Portable: 7FT Arc Length 6.5FT...

★★★★☆ ~ 407

\$35⁹⁹ ~~\$49.99~~



AMMSUN Chair Umbrella with Universal Clamp 43 inches UPF...

★★★★☆ ~ 1,914

\$28⁹⁹

✓prime



GigaTent Sun Shelter Beach Cabana Tent – Instant Set Up, UV Resistant,...

★★★★☆ ~ 550

\$35⁵⁰ ~~\$58.13~~

✓prime



Coleman Broadband Mesh Quad Camping Chair

★★★★☆ ~ 5,880

\$17⁹⁹ ~~\$24.99~~

A growing problem



Texas



Florida

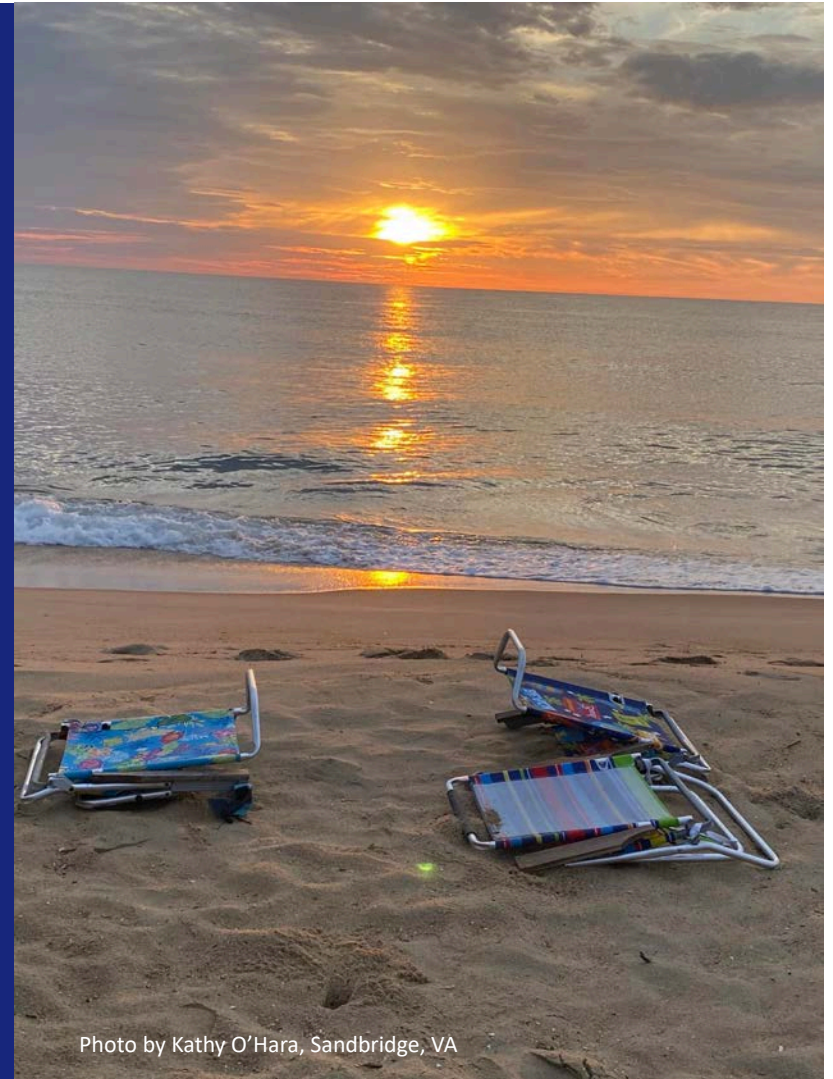
Frequently found items

- Tents
- Chairs
- Wooden loungers
- Umbrellas
- Toys

In Orange Beach, AL in 2018:

- 500 tents
- 5000 chairs
- 1200 umbrellas

were removed during **5500 collection stops**



Impacts

Ecological

Threats to wildlife

- Entanglement
- Obstruction for hatchlings or increase their time on beach (and exposure to predators)
- Interrupted nesting (obstructed crawls for female sea turtles)
- Disturbance from removal activities



From Navarre Beach, Florida

Impacts

Economic

- Cost to local govts
 - Remember: 5500 collections stops in Alabama
- Tourism?
- Human safety issues too



Photo by Kathy O'Hara, Sandbridge, VA

Solutions

- Local pollution prevention measures
 - Ex.: All beach equipment must be removed by sundown
 - Remove or forfeit or face civil penalties (fines)
- Bans
 - Ex.: no shade tents allowed
- Removal by local government workers
- Education & outreach
- “Leave No Trace” ordinances

Amazing ignorance



Photo by Kathy O'Hara,
Sandbridge, VA

Early research underway by CVW

We welcome your input to our upcoming report



Photo by Kathy O'Hara, Sandbridge, VA

Just a coastal problem?



Photo by Kathy O'Hara, Sandbridge, VA

Thank you



Navarre Beach, Florida



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With support from



References

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