

What's being done, what you can do, and the step by step breakdown

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- what/why ocean
- protection?





#### **5 Additional Projects You Can Do**

- beach clean ups - adopt a highway - ecobricking - water monitoring

- collaborate

- eating sustainably - shopping sustainably - eliminating single use plastics



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Take the Pledge



#### **Rotary Club Projects Taking Action**

- Rotary Reefs
- Maldives Mangrove Restoriation
- The Lionfish Project
- Operation Northern Exposure
- Seas & Straws
- The Big Fish Project
- Project Ocean Blue

**Other Tidbits that Help** 







# Why Protect Our Oceans?

Here's what we'll cover in this section:

- ocean stats - ocean temp - ocean acidification - coral bleaching

# Oceans are constantly being taken for granted.

20% of protein provided for the WORLD comes from the ocean. 90% of marine predators have been entirely eradicated



### The Plastic Island is now the size of Texas

### Oceans: a Key Component in our Climate



want surface to be warm
want deeper waters cooler
ocean stratification = homes for all species
this is not the case (anymore)
also effects the weather of the land it surrounds



### Ocean acidification is another issue that we can connect to humanity.

- by definition, ocean acidification is where the water's pH no longer oscillates around 7; instead, it has become more acidic, varying from pH values 7 and lower. - IPCC report determines "virtual certainty" humans are the cause - new circumstances result in an adapt or die situation





### It is undeniable. Humans have hurt the oceans.

- sea levels are rising - areas of extreme drought - areas of excess water - the way we treat the ocean MATTERS

- there are solutions to the problems we've caused...



# ROTARY CLUBS IN ACTION

(and how they can inspire you)



### 1. ROTARY REEFS

The Rotary Club of Newport Beach is working in Bocas del Toros to save the corals from the damage of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease.

"Our mission requires that we address the concept of coral reef recovery through a holistic lens. Ocean ecosystems include the management and protection of resources, the quality of life for the plant, animal and human species that live within that ecosystem. This means that our organization is more than just "putting coral structures" in the water."



**ROTARY REEFS** 



# WHAT THEY'RE TACKLING

#### **Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease**

what it does: kills the tissue in the corals, until the entire coral is dead.
has proven to be a significant threat to marine life living in/around corals

### HOW THEY DO IT

They started by inputting these 6ft reefs in Bocas Del Toros, Panama. The goal was to build a 100ft reef there, but this was the starting point.

In the Philippines, they have already managed to build a 70ft long reef.





# The Reef Breakdown

#### **SECTIONING (PARTIAL)**

4" slab weighs ± 50 lbs per square foot Average size of module: 8 ft<sup>2</sup> or 400 lbs Max size: 10 ft<sup>2</sup> • Min size 4 ft<sup>2</sup>



#### **BASE CONSTRUCTION**

± 200 concrete and steel supports Approx 5' x 5' x 2.66' Weight ± 330 lbs



Create strong base with random interior spaces that fish love. Relatively easy to handle and move indivitually under water. Allows for uneven terrain.

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#### **CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW**

Minimum surface depth at low tide = 5' Total height above sea floor =  $\pm 4'$ Minimum water depth 10'



Support strength is 60 lbs/ft<sup>2</sup> a 2.8' span. Slab weight: 50 lbs/ ft<sup>2</sup> • Allows for leveling of base to accomidate placement of modular top plate.

# HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Adopting a reef is a GREAT way to keep this project going.

Benefits of you/your group adopting a reef:

- more reefs are planted, allowing for more marine life success
- more trees are planted, allowing for the marine ecosystem to be sustained

- transit to and from these coral planting sites are covered, ensuring this project can actually continue!



### 2. MALDIVES MANGROVE RESTORATION

The Rotary Club of Malé is working with the Rotary Club of Onigbongbo to sustain and manage protected mangrove areas.



### WHY MANGROVES?

- very effective carbon sinks
- sustain marine ecosystems
- enhance marine wildlife life
- provide protection to marine wildlife





# THE GAME PLAN



nursery

### develop an awareness program for mangroves

- establish a mangrove
- establish a tour guide program for mangrove wetlands



# THE GAME PLAN

clean up mangrove areas in the island/community remove excess sediments provide a livelihood training program for informal female workers Introduce eco-tourism

### START A MANGROVE RESTORATION PROJECT WITH YOUR ROTARY GROUP!



## 3. The Lionfish Project



TORO

The goal: - fish out the invasive species (lionfish) where they are invading - remove the invasive species from the coral reefs - make a market for lionfish - minimize the negative effects of the lionfish

### STARTED IN BOCAS DEL



-they outcompete/kill native species

-this results in unnecessary extinction

-as well as a greater potential for overfishing

# NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF LIONFISH



### THIS IS APPLICABLE IN SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES SUFFERING FROM THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF LIONFISH











### 4. OPERATION NORTHERN EXPOSURE

In the Faroe Islands, there is a controversial annual occurrence of massacring the whales passing through. Sea Shepherd is infamous among whale hunters for their active pursuits against the massacre.

### ANTI- WHALE MASSACRE REASONING

many consider the slaughter of whales animal cruelty
the cultural significance of whale in the Faroese diet has been causing harm in children and adults due to high volumes of mercury

- suspicions of false claims of regulation





### WITH REGARDS TO MERCURY:

- pilot whales contain an average of 3.3 micrograms/gram of mercury
  - $\circ\,$  half of that being methyl mercury
- a proven association between meals eaten with whale, and:
  - birth defects due to mercury (mainly neurobehavioral dysfunction)
  - consumption of mercury exceeding the weekly recommended amount stated by WHO (0.3mg)





## WRITE A LETTER CAMPAIGN

- rotary is doing a write a letter campaign to save these whales that are being massacred - get involved, and join the letter campaign (by starting your own)

Source



### 5. SEAS AND STRAWS

#### The goal: eradicate plastic

- goal is to raise awareness about damage of plastic in the environment (long term) - educates people on the effects of plastic - provides alternatives for single use plastics in day-to-day living - promotes the riddance of plastic in a large degree













#### READ UP ON THE INFO PROVIDED



#### SEND IN YOUR QUESTIONS

2





#### COLLABORATE



# 6. THE BIG FISH PROJECT

### Rotary Club of Bocas del Toro

Putting big structures of sea creatures at the beach These sea creatures will hold single use plastics

# ROJECT

When filled, they are taken to a recycling company

### <u>GET INVOLVED</u>



Image from The Big Fish Project Facebook





THESE STRUCTURES ON YOUR BEACH



**RECYCLE THE PRODUCTS** & SAVE OUR WATERS!

## 7. PROJECT OCEAN BLUE





The Rotaract Club of <u>Kelana Jaya</u> started this project in August 2018, and finished in June 2019



#### **#LESSWHITEMOREBLUE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

- educated the public on environmental issues
- target audience: youth



# Project Ocean Blue cont.)

#### **METAL UP!**

- swapped plastic straws for metal - also lead to the #30LessStraws campaign - money that was fundraised was donated to a turtle conservation organization



# WATERFALL CLEAN UP

- CLEANED UP OVER 600KG OF PLASTIC AND GARBAGE - PAINTED THE HUT THAT WAS THERE AS WELL



### IS YOUR CLUB NEXT?

#### CAMPAIGNS & EDUCATION

- get your club to spread the word about the environmental issues in your area

- start a campaign to create a positive effect!

- get your club to volunteer on projects which will benefit your area - i.e. beach clean ups, plastic collections, water life restoration, etc.

#### VOLUNTEER WORK

### 5 PROJECTS TO HELP OUR OCEANS

# 1. BEACH CLEAN UPS

Why participate?



### AESTHETIC BENEFITS

A clean beach is a pretty beach! Whether the beach is a tourist hub or a frequented place by locals, people are more inclined to go to a clean beach.



### ECONOMIC BENEFITS

**Beaches are a tourist attraction!** Cleaner beaches bring in more tourists to come and do all sorts of fun beach activities- from shopping to parasailing.



### SAFETY BENEFITS

The plastic and garbage picked up from the beach prevents it from doing harm to the marine life on the shore and in the ocean.





#### SELECT YOUR LOCATION

Prior to going out, determine the beach which you and your group will be tending to. Feel free to visit the beach beforehand, and learn what you're dealing with.

#### GET YOUR GROUP

Once you have your location, partnering with school clubs or local organizations can bring you the help you'll need.

#### INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY

Spreading the word to the area local to the beach is a great way to encourage those around us to protect our oceans! This can be done via social media, flyers, local newspaper ads, etc.



#### COLLECT DATA

At the time of the beach cleanup, record the types of trash collected. This is a useful way to know what you are looking for in future beach clean ups. This can be done via tallying/categorizing, or through data collecting apps like Clean Swell.


## ROTARY IN ACTION

The Rotary Club of Del Mar Solana Beach is working in India for a beach clean up project to happen in the 2022-23 year.



# THEIR1provide HPLAN2set up bi

3

4

5



plant trees provide landscaping for beach provide classes for beach residents on waste disposal

provide hand gloves & trash bags set up bins for garbage disposal



#### What is it?

Adopt a highway is a program where anyone can choose a portion of their local highway and "adopt" it. What this means is that the section of adopted highway is then kept clean from litter and other pollutants by the person/group who adopts that section of the road. Adopting a highway is an easy way to prevent toxic runoff and plastics from entering the oceans. Essentially, we can protect both marine and terrestrial life by picking up the litter that is left on the road.

#### Why do it?





#### CONTACT ADOPT A HIGHWAY COORDINATOR

You can find this contact generally on the Department of Transportation site for your state.

#### REVIEW THE CONDITIONS AND COMMITMENTS

Adopting a highway comes with a monetary and time commitment. Be sure your group/organization is ready to make this decision!

#### REVIEW SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Adopt a Highway has a safety protocol set so that cleaning the highway doesn't put anyone in danger. Make sure to review this and save our oceans safely.

#### APPLY

Complete the application under the instructions of your state's Department of Transportation.

## **3. Ecobricking: what is it?**

**Ecobricking is where single-use plastics** are repurposed after use. This is done by taking something like a plastic water bottle and filling it up with clean plastic wrappers until it is so densely packed, you cannot bend the plastic bottle. Once this state has been reached, you have made an ecobrick! It can then be donated to an organization that will use it for structural purposes in furniture, housing, and anything that needs a building backbone.



## WHAT TO CONSIDER

01



short term or long term use?

02



storage

03

maintenance









#### What module?

# Toes of Ecobricking

Milstein, Dieleman, and Earth

## NEED TO KNOWS ABOUT THE MILSTEIN MODULE







short term use typically



2

horizontal stacking ONLY



5

builds seats, stages, beds, tables

should be cleaned once a year

## NEED TO KNOWS ABOUT THE DIELEMAN MODULE





indoor use ONLY



3

4

5

short term use typically



builds walls, stages, playgrounds

should be cleaned once a year

## NEED TO KNOWS ABOUT THE EARTH MODULE







3

4

5

mainly outdoor use

long term or short term use

not stacked; placed next to each other, connected by cement

builds outdoor furniture/structures

replace/repurpose once cracked



#### TAKE AN EMPTY PLASTIC BOTTLE

It can be any size, but generally speaking, the bigger the better.

#### SINGLE USE PLASTICS GO IN THE BOTTLE

Any plastic wrappers or thin plastic should be stuffed inside the plastic bottle. If it's any wrappers for things like chips or fruit snacks, make sure it is fully clean beforehand.

#### FIND A PLACE TO DONATE

The BrikMarket can help find where you can donate or receive ecobricks near you.

can help can

#### DONATE!

Send off your bricks to be repurposed, or find ways at home to have them repurposed there.



## ROTARY CLUB OF <u>WYNBERG</u> AND ECOBRICKING

Collected an abundance of plastic

In 2018, the club set up a day for ecobricking





### Estimated Cape Town can produce enough ecobricks to build 600 classrooms!



## 4. Water Monitoring

#### • WHAT IS IT?

Water monitoring helps determine the amount of pollution in your given body of water. Variables like fertilizer, wastewater release, and litter can decrease the quality of water.





## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT



often times wastewater/pollution is released in areas of water consumption
the extent of it's effects on freshwater is not widely known



## Why do it?



#### THE BENEFITS

- communities gain:
- safer
- results in:

- starting with the community leads to a big picture benefit • clean water to drink and • safe water to swim in - marine life in the community is

 community involvement environmental education

## The How to Guide



1.
Helps
2.
W
Deternation
effect

#### **Choose Your Location**

• Helps set the basis for the rest of your plan

### What Data do You Want?

#### Determining if you want to monitor the

effect of a species, community, or pollution

on water quality

## The How to Guide



- Analyze your results
  - **5. Report Your Findings**

### **3. Sample Your Water**

- Getting water samples will help you obtain
  - the information you need

## 4. Send It to the Lab

## **Thought Process for Water Monitoring**



© Government of Western Australia 2009

## Other Things to Consider:



Visiting local watershed/ reservoir 2

Monitor the trends of your freshwater source!







#### Capture/resuse stormwater







The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa de Copán is working to clean their water sources.

> - protecting/preventing pollution from reaching the water source - removing pollution that has entered water source - placement of water tank - encouraging the storage of water

# 5. COLLABORATE

Many groups providing help are also looking for it!

#### **International Volunteer HQ**

Has programs around the world for individuals and groups to get involved in marine conservation







#### Has volunteering and interning opportunities for the U.S. with ocean conservation



# Other Tidbits That Help







## 1. Eating Sustainably



### How to Guide:

- eat LOCAL
- choose foods in season
- sourced fisheries
- with meat: steer clear of beef

- with seafood: eat from sustainably



# All

## The Why Behind it

- eating locally & in season prevents unnecessary shipping emissions - 70% of shipping/trade is by sea - eating sustainably sourced fish/seafood prevents overfishing - steering clear of beef reduces carbon emissions, preventing further ocean acidification/warming



## Finding Sustainable Sources



#### In season

Learn what foods are in season in your area



Image from MSC.org

#### Seafood: <u>MSC</u> label

MSC label on fish ensures it was obtained safely



#### **Monterey Aquarium**

Has several resources to promote safe brands/foods for seafood, dependent on your location (applicable internationally)

## 2. Sustainable Shopping



#### The How to Guide:

- sustainable
- consumerism is unavoidable, so
- here are some alternates:
  - thrifting
  - clothing swaps
  - upcycling

Source

- buy from brands proven to be
- buy to make clothing last



#### **Clothing Swaps**:

Taking unwanted clothes to friends/people in the community, and exchanging them for their unwanted clothes





## What is Upcycling?

**Repurposing clothing, essentially** 

## Sustainable Shopping (cont.)





#### Thrifting

Donating your clothing to be used by someone else is a great way to prevent the clothing from going to waste

Unwanted clothes can also be a point of profit! This ensures your clothes don't go to waste, and you get some money back.

#### **Sell Your Clothes**

plastic water bottles

disposable pads/tampons

plastic grocery bags





#### Some alternatives, to get you started:

reusable water bottles

menstrual underwear, menstrual cups

reusable grocery bags

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Sign the pledge: Go to https://www.globalclimatepledge.com/ to state your commitment OR

Scan the QR code and sign the pledge there.

Share the pledge:

- Spread the word through social media and word of mouth - Encouraging others to make the step amplifies our impact!

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#### Individual Pledge:



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## Contact Us!

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