

## Where To Dispose Of Your Monofilament Line

Many communities have monofilament recycling bins at bait and tackle shops, boat ramps, marinas, fishing piers, bridges, and at beach access roads.



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You can also recycle on your own by sending all monofilament line to:  
 Berkley Recycling Collection Center  
 1900 18th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360-1099  
 1-800-BERKLEY

## How To Report Dumping Of Marine Debris

Call the U.S. Coast Guard at 1-800-424-8802, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922), or your local sheriff's office.



Brevard County



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Brevard County

## Learn More!

To become involved in special cleanup events or to start a monofilament recycling project in your area, contact the Division of Marine Fisheries, 2590 Executive Center Circle E, Suite 204, Tallahassee, FL 32301  
[www.marinefisheries.org](http://www.marinefisheries.org)



The Ocean Conservancy

Logo to come



**Spread the word about monofilament recycling!**

# Which Would You Rather Catch?



FFWCC



T. Dellinger



FFWCC



Nelio Barros

# The Future Of Fishing Depends On A Clean Environment And That Depends On You!

## The Problem

Discarded monofilament fishing line is hazardous to everyone and everything. Every year it causes injury and death to many kinds of marine wildlife. Animals



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may swallow fishing line, resulting in illness or death. Wildlife may also become entangled, drown, starve, or lose a limb. Fishing line is not just a problem for wildlife; it

can also be a threat to divers and boaters. Divers can drown if they become entangled. Entangled propellers may result in costly repairs. It is illegal to improperly discard fishing line.

## The Facts

- From 1980–1999, one in every five manatee rescues was a result of entanglement in monofilament.
- From 1996–2000 (5 years), 163 turtles were found entangled in monofilament line.
- Between 1995–2000, approximately 35 dolphins in the Southeast U.S. died as a result of monofilament-related injuries.
- Researchers have documented over 60 species of fish that have been entangled in or swallowed marine debris.
- During 1999–2000, over 265 seabirds of various species were rescued as a result of hook and line entanglements. Of those 265 seabirds, 92 died.

## What Can You Do?

- Don't leave your line behind. If you have unwanted line, store it safely and securely until it can be placed in a recycling receptacle.
- Never leave fishing line unattended.
- Cast with care! Survey the area before you cast your line to avoid trees, utility lines, bridges, reefs, wildlife, and other anglers.
- If your line gets snagged or should break, make every effort to safely retrieve it.
- Collect discarded line, debris and other abandoned fishing gear when encountered.
- Do not feed wildlife as it encourages animals to approach fishing boats and anglers.
- Participate in a monofilament recycling program and/or local cleanup efforts.
- Obtain and adopt a recycling bin for your favorite fishing/boating area.
- Practice and develop your skills so gear is not lost.



## How To Help Entangled Animals

Report all entangled marine wildlife to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922). Report all entangled land animals or birds to your local rehabilitation hospital. Do not attempt to disentangle animals as it may result in injury to yourself and/or the animal.



Miami Seaquarium



Tom O'Shea, U.S.G.S. Sirenia Project



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**DON'T LEAVE YOUR LINE BEHIND**  **RECYCLE YOUR OLD FISHING LINE**