

## Keeping Puget Sound Clean

### Mark Your Calendars

For over 30 years, Ocean Conservancy has put together the Annual International Coastal Cleanup event the third weekend of September. While this year will look a little different with social distancing safety guidelines in place, our oceans still need your help and the 2020 International Coastal Cleanup still needs you to #CleanOn.



### Together Apart

The shut down of most indoor activities from Covid19 has led to an increase in outdoor recreation this summer. In turn, this has led to increased trash in Puget Sound and surrounding bodies of water. Marine organisms need our help to keep their ecosystem clean.

Helping Puget Sound can take on several different forms. It may be a solo or a small-scale socially distant local cleanup. It might be changing some habits at home to reduce waste. It can even be using your voice to advocate for Puget Sound by asking our leaders to make clean, healthy oceans a priority. Puget Sound depends on our incredible community of people like you. No matter what action you take, it matters and we thank you!

### A Clean Beach Starts At Home

Healthy changes in your lifestyle make an impact on our local marine ecosystem. You can help keep Kitsap waters cleaner by:

- Using water wisely - water gardens deeply but infrequently
- Disposing of yard waste in appropriate areas - never on a waterfront slope!
- Building healthy soil with compost - make sure to mulch garden beds to conserve moisture
- Plant native species that help stabilize soil and support wildlife while minimizing lawn areas
- Use natural fertilizers and pest controls - always check the package for chemical ingredients that are harmful to both humans and wildlife.

Making these small changes has a huge impact on the surrounding land. Plus, it is healthier for you, too!



### Clean Beach, Social Distance Style

We hope you are ready to take on International Coastal Cleanup 2020! Always make sure you are properly prepared before heading out to do your part for our beaches. At the bottom of this newsletter, you can find links to The Ocean Conservancy page on how to properly prepare. **Check out the links below for local cleanup opportunities this coming weekend.**

Once you are safely and properly prepared, make sure to track your progress. You can use the Ocean Conservancy's cleanup data collection app, Clean Swell, to count how much trash you pick up.

Be safe, enjoy your time outdoors, and know that both the Shore Friendly Team and our ecosystem thanks you for your efforts.



### About Shore Friendly Kitsap

*Shore Friendly Kitsap is your waterfront partner.*

**Our mission is to empower Puget Sound waterfront landowners to create beautiful, environmentally friendly shorelines for themselves and generations to come.**

*Join our new Facebook group! Link below...*

**Contact us:** 360.307.4242 or shorefriendly@co.kitsap.wa.us

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