

OCEAN CONSERVANCY'S  
International  
**Coastal  
Cleanup**

START A SEA CHANGE



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## SUMMARY REPORT Republic of Korea

**2007 State Coordinator:**

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## **The International Coastal Cleanup**

The International Coastal Cleanup engages people to remove trash and debris from the world's beaches and waterways, to identify the sources of debris, and to change the behaviors that cause pollution.

### **The 2007 ICC: A Dynamic Global Snapshot of Marine Debris**

In 2007, the ICC's growing success generated a detailed picture of trash in our ocean. International participation jumped from 66 countries in 2006 to 76 in 2007. More than 378,000 people picked their way across more than 33,000 miles of stream, river, and ocean shoreline to collect six million pounds of debris. That translates to an average of 16 pounds per person. Once again, Project Aware led scuba divers (8,321 of them) below the surface in underwater cleanups that yielded 161,513 pounds.

China joined the ICC for the second year; Russia also took part in the cleanup, for the first time since 2003. The Caribbean improved dramatically on last year's ICC efforts, with volunteer numbers in Trinidad and Tobago jumping from 894 to 2,250, an increase of more than 60 percent. And in the Bahamas, volunteer participation exploded a whopping 82 percent as 1,037 volunteers pitched in (compared to 180 in 2006). These volunteers removed an average of almost 78 pounds of trash per mile, which equaled 80 percent more pounds of debris per mile than last year.

Through its Regional Seas Programme (RSP) and the Global Programme for Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), the United Nations

Environmental Programme (UNEP) has developed a "Global Initiative on Marine Litter" to address the global pollution issue. The initiative focuses on both regional and global efforts, and provides a platform to establish partnerships and cooperation for the coordination of activities to control and sustainably manage marine debris.

In the US, Ocean Conservancy President Vikki Spruill was honored to join First Lady Laura Bush to announce the White House's new marine debris initiative during the dedication ceremony of the J.L. Scott Marine Education Center – Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Biloxi, Mississippi. The White House Initiative calls for an increase in public/private partnerships on cleanups, enhanced public education on debris prevention, and an emphasis on international cooperation to end dumping in the ocean.



## 2007 ICC: Republic of Korea

In the Republic of Korea, 4,361 volunteers participated in the ICC, removing 236,062.4 pounds of trash and debris from 16.7 miles of shoreline. In addition, 311 volunteer divers participated in underwater cleanups, removing 14,423 pounds of debris from 0.4 miles of seafloor.

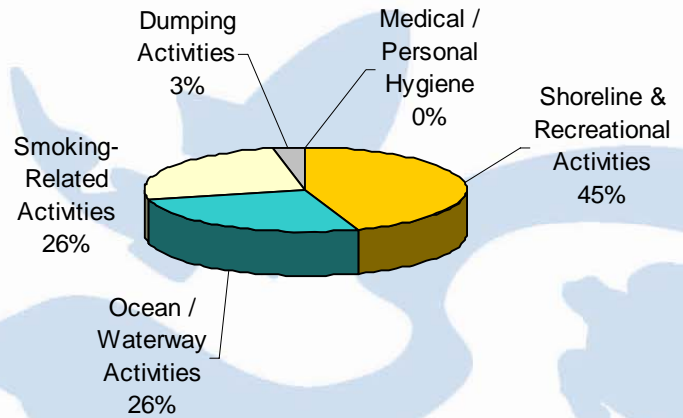
44.6 percent of the debris found in the Republic of Korea came from land-based activities like picnics, festivals, sporting events, and beach outings. Litter washed from streets, parking lots, and storm drains also contributed to this category.

Ocean and water-based activities offshore such as boating and fishing accounted for 26.3 percent of the Republic of Korea's debris. Globally, 6.3 percent of collected debris came from ocean and waterway-based activities.

Smoking-related products (cigarette filters, cigar tips, and tobacco packaging) accounted for 25.5 percent of the debris found in the Republic of Korea. Worldwide, these items comprised 33.6 percent of the six million pounds of debris collected.

Ocean Conservancy's annual Top Ten list shows which items are most prevalent around the globe. The Top Ten accounted for 72.6 percent of the debris found in the Republic of Korea.

## 2007 ICC: Republic of Korea Sources of Debris



### Top Ten Debris Items

Debris Items	Number of Items	Percentage of Total
<b>1. Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters</b>	<b>10,881</b>	<b>21.2%</b>
<b>2. Bags</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>8.2%</b>
<b>3. Buoys/Floats</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
<b>4. Beverage Bottles (Glass)</b>	<b>3,975</b>	<b>7.7%</b>
<b>5. Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less</b>	<b>2,906</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
<b>6. Caps/Lids</b>	<b>2,644</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>7. Beverage Cans</b>	<b>2,493</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
<b>8. Strapping Bands</b>	<b>2,403</b>	<b>4.7%</b>
<b>9. Food Wrappers and Containers</b>	<b>2,019</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>10. Rope</b>	<b>1,724</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>Total Top Ten</b>	<b>37,328</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total All Debris Items</b>	<b>51,385</b>	<b>72.64%</b>

## Dangers of Marine Debris

In addition to being an eyesore, marine debris also poses dangers for wildlife and people. Marine debris kills more than one million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals and turtles annually. Unfortunately, each year ICC volunteers find a variety of marine wildlife species entangled in debris. In 2007, participants found 237 entangled animals. Birds represented nearly 35 percent of entangled wildlife, followed by fish (27 percent), invertebrates (20 percent), mammals (nearly 13 percent), reptiles (almost five percent), and amphibians (less than one percent).

Discarded monofilament fishing line is perhaps the single-most dangerous debris item, accounting for 65 percent of entanglements found during the ICC. In fact, derelict fishing gear – which includes fishing line, nets, rope, lures, and light sticks, and crab/lobster/fish traps – represented 72 percent of all entanglements.

## Conclusion

Trash in our ocean pollutes our water, kills and injures wildlife, and also costs local communities in debris removal, lost tourism, and lower property values. While the ICC accomplishes amazing results, one day of cleaning up will only be a drop in the ocean unless we expand our reach, bringing in new volunteers and new countries and expanding our commitment beyond the Cleanup to keeping our ocean healthy all year round. We have the opportunity to make significant strides not only in cleaning up the existing trash that is polluting our water, but – more importantly – in reducing the amount that enters the ocean in the first place.

If we all join together and make the ICC's mission an integral part of our daily lives, we could truly *start a sea change*, every day. It starts one day at a time.



## 10 Things You Can Do To Stop Marine Debris

### 1. Join Ocean Conservancy's International Cleanup!

Visit [www.oceanconservancy.org/coastalcleanup](http://www.oceanconservancy.org/coastalcleanup)

**2. Clean up your trash.** Throw all trash away in proper receptacles, even when you're not on the water. Pick up any debris you see while out.

### 3. Collect your monofilament fishing line.

Don't leave fishing line behind and retrieve any other line you may find while fishing, but be careful not to tug on snagged lines, which could be caught on habitat below the surface.

**4. Contain and properly clean spills when boating.** Use oil-absorbent rags and materials to clean spills. Check Ocean Conservancy's *Good Mate* manual for helpful tips on reducing your negative impacts on the water.

**5. Recycle used motor oil and oil filters.** Local gas stations should have appropriate facilities for recycling these materials. NEVER pour oil, paint, antifreeze, or other household chemicals into an open sewer or down a storm drain.

**6. Consider organic alternatives to household detergents and cleaners.** Use lemon juice, vinegar, and baking soda for household cleaning. Avoid using fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and harsh chemical cleaners that can wash into waterways.

**7. Choose reusable items and use fewer disposable ones.** Use fewer disposable bags when shopping or bring your own reusable ones.

**8. Properly dispose of used batteries and electronics.** Don't dump them in landfills, use your local recycling center. These items leach harmful chemicals into the environment that take a long time to disperse.

**9. Keep streets, sidewalks, parking lots, and storm drains clear of trash and debris** – they empty into our ocean.

**10. Contact your elected representatives** and let them know you care about marine debris – and that they should care, too. Vote for candidates who support marine debris prevention and policies that protect our environment.



**Republic of Korea 2007 ICC Sponsors**

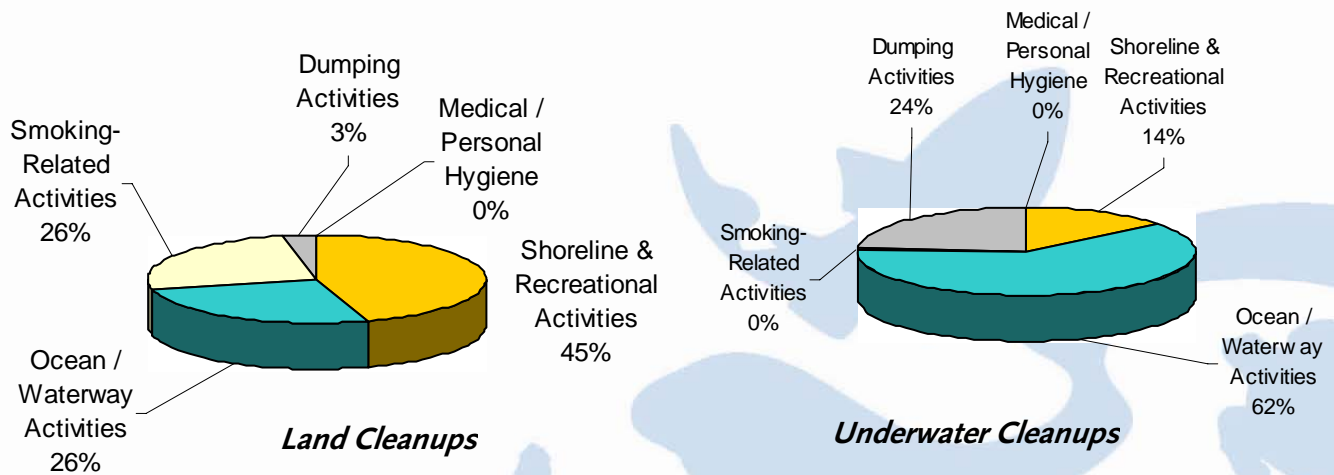
Korea Maritime Institute  
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries



## Debris Items Collected During the 2007 ICC in Republic of Korea

Debris Items	Land	Underwater	Total	Percentage of Total
<b>Shoreline &amp; Recreational Activities</b>				
Bags	4185	7	4192	3200.0%
Balloons	217	0	217	165.6%
Beverage Bottles (plastic) 2 liter or less	2901	5	2906	2218.3%
Beverage Bottles (glass)	3957	18	3975	3034.4%
Beverage Cans	2491	2	2493	1903.1%
Caps/Lids	2644	0	2644	2018.3%
Clothing/Shoes	778	0	778	593.9%
Cups/Plates/Forks/Knives/Spoons	1251	0	1251	955.0%
Food Wrappers	2019	0	2019	1541.2%
Pull Tabs	911	0	911	695.4%
Six-Pack Holders	218	0	218	166.4%
Shotgun Shells	4	0	4	3.1%
Straws/Stirrers	1054	0	1054	804.6%
Toys	250	0	250	190.8%
<b>Category Totals</b>	<b>22,880</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22912</b>	<b>17490.1%</b>
<b>Ocean/Waterway Activities</b>				
Bait Containers	498	1	499	380.9%
Bleach/Cleaner	185	0	185	141.2%
Buoys/Floats	4084	7	4091	3122.9%
Crab/Lobster/Fish Traps	148	12	160	122.1%
Crates	183	1	184	140.5%
Fishing Line	823	0	823	628.2%
Fishing Lures/Light Sticks	804	0	804	613.7%
Fishing Nets	528	8	536	409.2%
Light Bulbs	100	0	100	76.3%
Oil/Lube Bottles	140	5	145	110.7%
Pallets	751	3	754	575.6%
Plastic Sheeting	1092	0	1092	833.6%
Rope	1627	97	1724	1316.0%
Strapping Bands	2398	5	2403	1834.4%
<b>Category Totals</b>	<b>13,361</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>13500</b>	<b>10305.3%</b>
<b>Smoking-Related Activities</b>				
Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters	10881	0	10881	8306.1%
Cigarette Lighters	707	0	707	539.7%
Cigar Tips	86	0	86	65.6%
Tobacco Packaging	1432	1	1433	1093.9%
<b>Category Totals</b>	<b>13,106</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13107</b>	<b>10005.3%</b>
<b>Dumping Activities</b>				
Appliances	97	2	99	75.6%
Batteries	303	0	303	231.3%
Building Materials	937	0	937	715.3%
Car/Car Parts	139	10	149	113.7%
55-Gallon Drums	37	0	37	28.2%
Tires	89	42	131	100.0%
<b>Category Totals</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1656</b>	<b>1264.1%</b>
<b>Medical/Personal Hygiene</b>				
Condoms	97	2	99	75.6%
Diapers	303	0	303	231.3%
Syringes	937	0	937	715.3%
Tampons	139	10	149	113.7%
<b>Category Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28.2%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Republic of Korea 2007 ICC: Sources of Debris – Land and Underwater Cleanups



## Republic of Korea 2007 ICC: Top Ten Debris Items – Land and Underwater Cleanups

### Top Ten Debris Items - Land Cleanups

Debris Items	Number of Items	Percentage of Total
1. Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters	10881	21.27%
2. Bags	4185	8.18%
3. Buoys/Floats	4084	7.98%
4. Beverage Bottles (Glass)	3957	7.73%
5. Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less	2901	5.67%
6. Caps/Lids	2644	5.17%
7. Beverage Cans	2491	4.87%
8. Strapping Bands	2398	4.69%
9. Food Wrappers and Containers	2019	3.95%
10. Rope	1627	3.18%
<b>Total Top Ten</b>	<b>37187</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total All Debris Items</b>	<b>51159</b>	<b>72.69%</b>

### Top Ten Debris Items - Underwater Cleanups

Debris Items	Number of Items	Percentage of Total
1. Rope	97	42.9%
2. Tires	42	18.6%
3. Beverage Bottles (Glass)	18	8.0%
4. Crab/Lobster/Fish Traps	12	5.3%
5. Car/Car Parts	10	4.4%
6. Fishing Nets	8	3.5%
7. Bags	7	3.1%
8. Buoys/Floats	7	3.1%
9. Strapping Bands	5	2.2%
10. Oil/Lube Bottles	5	2.2%
<b>Total Top Ten</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total All Debris Items</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>93.36%</b>