

Washington Coast Cleanup returns to clear Pacific shores

Washington Coast Cleanup

Saturday, April 23, at low tide

Cleanup events will take place at Cape Disappointment State Park; Seaview Approach in Seaview; Sid Snyder Approach, Bolstad Beach Approach and Cranberry Approach in Long Beach; Klipsan Approach, Oysterville Approach and Bay Avenue in Ocean Park; Twin Harbors in Westport; Chance a La Mer Ocean Beach Approach in Ocean Shores; Ocean City Ocean Beach Approach in Ocean City; Seabook Beach in Seabook; Pacific Beach-Copalis and Moclips Beach in Pacific Beach.

Register now to volunteer
www.coastsavers.org

BY LISSA BREWER

Each turn of the tide brings forth new, drifting logs and stones on the remote shores of Washington state. Wind gusts reshape long stretches of sand while seabirds search the shore, swooping in to find abundant coves of fish. But along this wild and beautiful coast, scattered bits of plastic and other marine debris also find a place to rest.

Traces left behind by wandering visitors cause only part of this pollution, which harms wildlife and vegetation as well as the economies of coastal communities. Much of the trash found along Pacific shores washes in from the open ocean. Discarded fishing gear, plastic bottles, styrofoam pieces and other solid waste can be found in vast ocean patches, including the 600,000 square mile Great Pacific Garbage Patch. To combat debris at a community level, thousands of local volunteers remove several

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LEFT: A young boy helps out at a Washington Coast Cleanup. BELOW: The Washington Clean Coast Alliance hosts multiple events each year to remove marine debris from the shores.

