



Microplastic = macroproblem

Scientists began describing the problem of plastic debris in the environment in the 1960s. By the 1970s, researchers were reporting albatrosses ingesting plastic bottle tops and balloons, which blocked digestion and caused them to starve, as well as dolphins and turtles becoming entangled in fishing nets and drowning.

 Some 40 years later, a small group of ecologists, marine biologists and other scientists are bringing awareness to an even greater threat — the widespread accumulation of small fragments of plastic known as "microplastic."



PLASTIC WILL AFFECT REAL ESTATE

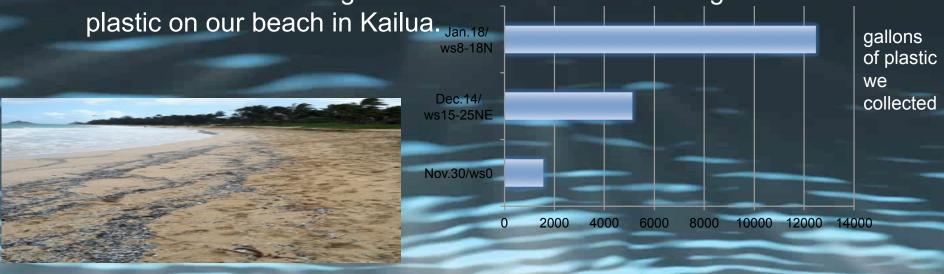
- People will not want to pay as much for houses on a beach full of plastic.
- So the price on beach houses will go down affecting the real estate business.



ON OUR BEACH IN HAWAII OAHU

- We conducted our own study and collected plastic using nets.
- We had 7 10 by 10 plots and sifted all the plastic we could.

• With some math we figured out that we had 1544.24 gallons of



 Method: Ten test holes were dug inbetween student survey plots to determine the downward migration of micro-plastic below the surface of the sand. The test holes were 12 inches deep by 36 inches long.

 Results: None of the test holes revealed any micro-plastic below the surface of the beach sand more than 3 inches deep, and insignificant amounts were noted at that depth. The vast majority of micro-plastic seems to remain in the top 1-2 inches of the sand.

• Possible Explanation: The density of the micro-plastic prohibits its downward migration, therefore beach clean up will be less complicated and less expensive.



Kuroshio Current

North Pacific Current

California Current

North Equatorial Current

WHY WE ARE DOING THE STUDY?

- Because we want to help the environment and tell people about all the pollution and if we don't act fast all of our beaches will be covered in plastic and our waters will be polluted.
- Micro plastic is a huge problem it will affect our beaches, our oceans, the food chain, it will kill off a huge number of animals. So we need to stop micro plastic now!

What are the possible long term economic implications of the recent micro-plastic invasion of Kailua Beach to the local economy

- The government will have to get machines to sweep the beaches and get rid of the plastic.
- The government will have to pay more money to run those machines.
- But the machines wont pick up all the plastic because some are smaller than the sand.

SOLUTION

 We can make machines to sift sand and get plastic out and we can burn the plastic with the wood the machines picked up with the plastic and make energy and have the machines pay for themselves.

THERE ARE MILLIONS OF PLASTIC BOTTLES ARE IN THE OCEAN!!!



SO WE NEED TO PRESERVE CRYSTAL CLEAR WATERS!

