

Marine Debris Database Instruction Guide

The Beach Cleanup Marine Debris Database is made possible through a grant from the



INTRODUCTION TO THE MARINE DEBRIS DATABASE

Adopt-A-Beach

The Adopt-A-Beach Program, an educational project of the California Coastal Commission, gives people of all ages the opportunity to learn about and participate in the conservation of our coastal resources. By cleaning the beach, participants will see how trash on our streets winds up in the ocean.

What is the Marine Debris Database?

Volunteers collect data during the cleanup that may be used to help identify ways to stop beach pollution. Compiling all of this data into the Marine Debris Database makes the information easily accessible to Heal the Bay and the public. The database can also be used as a tool to revise national maritime disposal policies and advance environmental legislation.

In addition, the database can be a powerful educational tool for schools that participate in beach cleanups, adding components of critical thinking and analysis to the classroom.

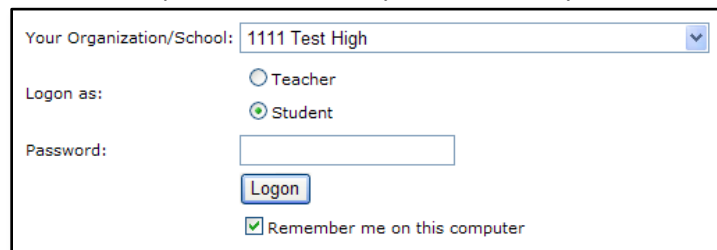
Where do the numbers come from?

You! Heal the Bay depends on its volunteers for successful beach cleanups, and they also play an important role in keeping the Marine Debris Database up-to-date with the latest cleanup data. Thank you!

Getting Started

It is very helpful to follow along on the website as you read through this guide. To access the Marine

- Point your web browser to: <http://www.healthebay.org/BeachCleanUp/>
- Select your organization or school from the drop-down menu.* If you do not see your school or organization in the menu please call (310)451.1500 and ask for the Adopt a-Beach manager.



- Select either student or teacher login.
 - Students, your password is your last name (properly capitalized (or the last name of the main contact for your beach cleanup).
 - Teachers, your password is available within the body of your Beach Cleanup Confirmation e-mail. It is your last name (or the last name of the main contact) plus a 3-digit ID number (for example, Jones123). You can contact Heal the Bay at (310) 451-1500 if you do not have your password

USING THE DATABASE

Entering Data Cards

When you log in to the Marine Debris Database, you should see a list of all the cleanups your organization or school has done.

Cleanup Date ▼	Site	Room/Grade/Teacher	# Data Cards	
3/24/2008	Cabrillo Beach		0	Add a Data Card
3/9/2008	Manhattan State Beach	Room 15	0	
3/8/2008	Manhattan State Beach	Room 5	0	
2/20/2008	Manhattan State Beach	5th	1	
1/23/2008	Manhattan State Beach	Smith	0	
1/22/2008	Hermosa City Beach		2	
1/15/2008	Cabrillo Beach	5/5/Littrell	1	
7/31/2007	Playa Del Rey Beach		12	Add a Data Card
7/26/2006	Playa Del Rey Beach	13/6/Littrell	6	
7/25/2006	Santa Monica Beach		1	
7/20/2005	Santa Monica Beach		1	
8/18/2004	Santa Monica Beach		0	
8/20/2003	Playa Del Rey Beach		0	
8/14/2002	Playa Del Rey Beach		0	

Show Page: 1 (Total Records: 14) Records Per Page: 20 ▼



An example of a list of beach cleanups.

Click the [Add a Data Card](#) link next to the cleanup date and beach that match the information on your data card.

After that, just copy the numbers from the data card to the form on the website.) forget to click when



TIP: while entering numbers, you can press the *Tab* key on your keyboard to move to the next trash item without using the mouse.

 CLEANUP DATA CARD	
Heal the Bay	
Group/Team Name:	<input type="text"/>
Beach/Site:	Manhattan State Beach
Date of Cleanup:	March 24 2008
Do not write words such as "Lots" or "Many." Only numbers of items can be used. Convert tally marks to integers.	
RECYCLABLE ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Beverage Bottles
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Glass Beverage Bottles
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Aluminum Soda Cans
PLASTIC ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Bags (grocery, shopping, trash)
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Snack Bags (chips)
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Wrappers (candy)
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Fast Food (cups, lids, plates, utensils)
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Bottle Caps/Rings
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	6-Pack Rings
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Newspaper Ties, Strapping Bands
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Straws, Stirrers
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Fishing Line, Nets, Lures, Floats
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Motor Oil Bottles
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Balloons/Ribbons
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Plastic Pieces
STYROFOAM ITEMS (FOAMED PLASTIC)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Foam Peanuts (styrofoam packaging)
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Fast Food Containers, Cups, Plates
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Styrofoam Pieces
SMOKING RELATED ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Cigarette Butts
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Cigar Tips
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Disposable Lighters
PAPER ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Paper Bags
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Cardboard, Newspaper, Magazines
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Fast Food Containers, Cups, Plates
METAL ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Metal Lids, Caps, Pulls
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Batteries
MEDICAL AND PERSONAL HYGIENE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Syringes, Needles
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Diapers
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Condoms
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Tampons, Tampon Applicators
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Band Aids, Bandages
<input type="button" value="Save the Values for This Data Card"/>	
Thank You. The data you have entered will be used for educational, scientific and legislative purposes to help make Southern California Coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.	
 Heal the Bay	

Analysis and Charting

After you have entered your data cards, you can create custom charts and reports from your own data! This is a step-by-step guide on how to use the Marine Debris Database to create and save charts.

1. Click *Analysis and Charting* from the left-hand menu, or visit <http://www.healthebay.org/BeachCleanUp/AnalysisWizard.aspx>. It is not necessary to be logged in.
2. Chart Type - Choose the kind of analysis you would like (e.g.) and click the *Next* button. Descriptions of each chart type are included below the following image.

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Marine Debris Data Analysis and Charting". On the left is a blue sidebar with a "Chart Type" menu containing links for "Criteria", "Date Range", "Measures", and "Visual Options". The main content area is titled "Select the kind of analysis you want to do" and features two sections: "How Many Cleanups" and "Debris Picked Up". Each section has five radio button options. In the "Debris Picked Up" section, the "At One Beach" option is selected. At the bottom of the form are three buttons: "Open a Saved Chart", "Next", and "Finish".


- a. *How Many Cleanups*
 - i. *At All Beaches** See how many cleanups were performed at all sites by all organizations.
 - ii. *At One Beach* See how many cleanups were performed at a particular site by all organizations.
 - iii. *By an Organization* See how many cleanups were performed by a particular school or organization.
 - iv. *By Type of Organization* See how many cleanups were performed by schools versus scout troops, etc.
- b. *Debris Picked Up*
 - i. *At All Beaches** See how much debris has been picked up during a particular time period.
 - ii. *At One Beach* See how much debris has been picked up at a particular site.
 - iii. *Compare Beaches* Compare the debris picked up at one site to other sites.
 - iv. *Compare Cleanups* Compare the debris picked up during one cleanup to other cleanups.
 - v. *Compare Teams* Compare the debris picked up by teams at one cleanup.

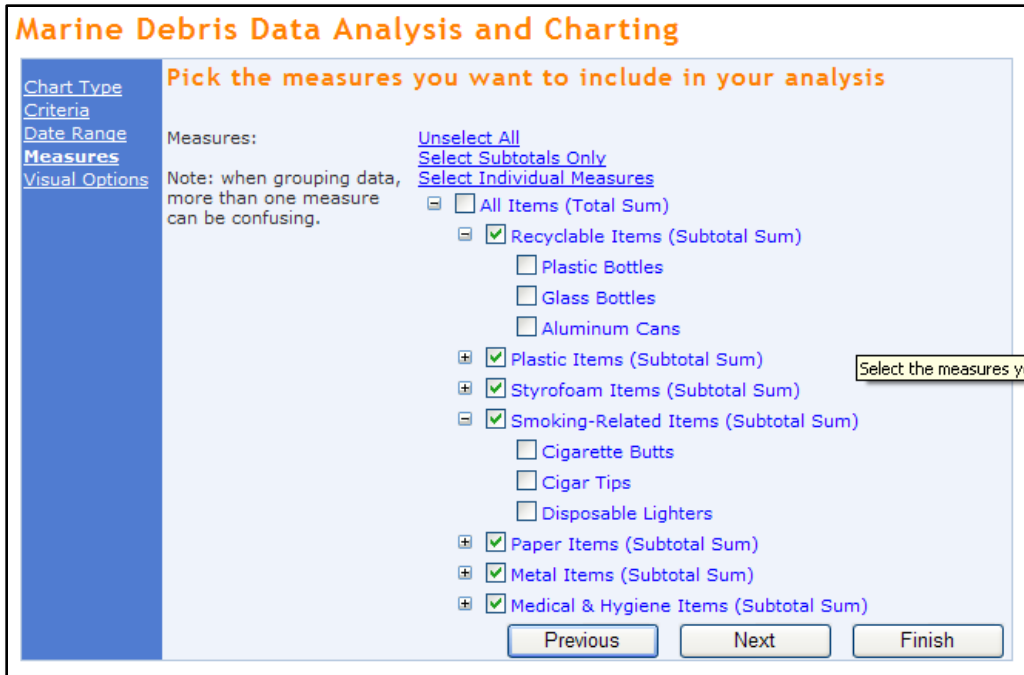
- vi. *Compare Organizations* Compare the debris picked up by one school or group to other schools or groups.
- vii. *By an Organization* See how much debris has been picked up by a particular school or organization.

*If you choose *At All Beaches* as your chart type, skip step 3.

3. Criteria - Select the site(s) or organization(s) you want to analyze and click *Next*. The screen below may be different depending on your choice of Chart Type in step 2.

4. Date Range - Specify the time frame you want to analyze by entering a date range, and select the grouping you are interested in (per month, per year, per beach). Click *Next*.

- Measures - Select the types of trash you want to include and click *Next*. You can click the small plus sign () next to any category to see more specific categories (for example, *Plastic Bottles* under the *Recyclable Items* category).



Marine Debris Data Analysis and Charting

Pick the measures you want to include in your analysis

Chart Type
Criteria
Date Range
Measures
Visual Options

Measures: [Unselect All](#)
[Select Subtotals Only](#)
[Select Individual Measures](#)

Note: when grouping data, more than one measure can be confusing.

All Items (Total Sum)

Recyclable Items (Subtotal Sum)

- Plastic Bottles
- Glass Bottles
- Aluminum Cans

Plastic Items (Subtotal Sum) Select the measures you

Styrofoam Items (Subtotal Sum)

Smoking-Related Items (Subtotal Sum)

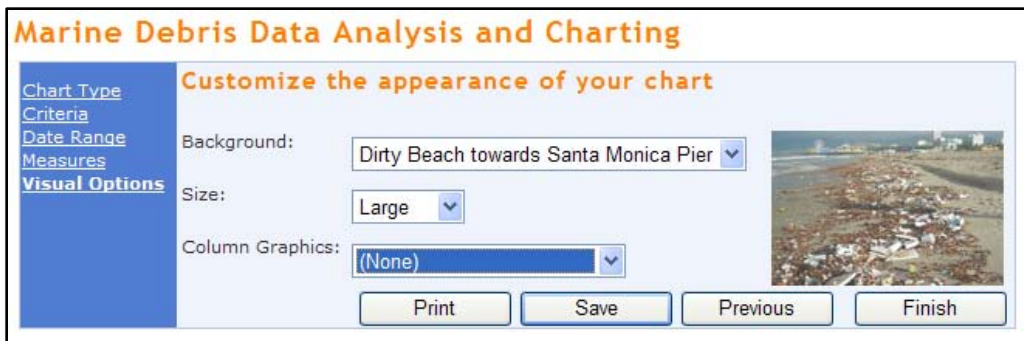
- Cigarette Butts
- Cigar Tips
- Disposable Lighters

Paper Items (Subtotal Sum)

Metal Items (Subtotal Sum)

Medical & Hygiene Items (Subtotal Sum)


- Visual Options - Customize the look of your chart by choosing background images and column graphics, and click *Finish*. NOTE: if you are analyzing multiple types of trash at multiple beaches, you should select (*None*) as the column graphics to make sure your chart is easy to read.



Marine Debris Data Analysis and Charting

Customize the appearance of your chart

Chart Type
Criteria
Date Range
Measures
Visual Options

Background: Dirty Beach towards Santa Monica Pier 

Size: Large

Column Graphics: (None)

- After you finish your chart, you can save it on the database for future use or to share with your classmates. Just click the *Save* button. To open a saved chart, click the *Open a Saved Chart* button on the main *Analysis and Charting* page.

