Appendix A

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.
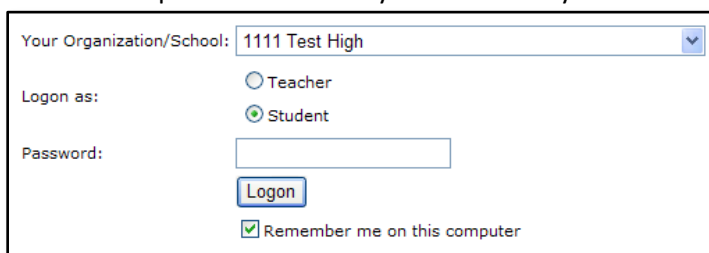
Where do the numbers come from?

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 Debris Database…

- 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.
    - o **Students**, your password is your teacher's last name **properly capitalized** (or the last name of the main contact for your beach cleanup).
    - o **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
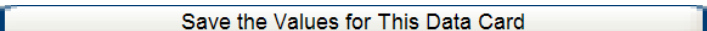
USING THE DATABASE

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.

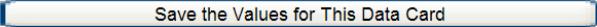
An example of a list of beach cleanups.

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. Don't forget to click

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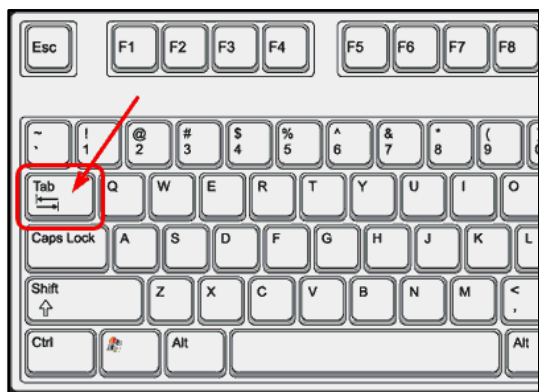
TIP: while entering numbers, you can press the *Tab* key on your keyboard to move to the next trash item without using the mouse.

CLEANUP DATA CARD

Heal the Bay

Group/Team Name: _____

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

0	Plastic Beverage Bottles
0	Glass Beverage Bottles
0	Aluminum Soda Cans

PLASTIC ITEMS

0	Plastic Bags (grocery, shopping, trash)
0	Plastic Snack Bags (chips)
0	Plastic Wrappers (candy)
0	Plastic Fast Food (cups, lids, plates, utensils)
0	Plastic Bottle Caps/Rings
0	6-Pack Rings
0	Newspaper Ties, Strapping Bands
0	Plastic Straws, Stirrers
0	Fishing Line, Nets, Lures, Floats
0	Plastic Motor Oil Bottles
0	Balloons/Ribbons
0	Plastic Pieces

STYROFOAM ITEMS (FOAMED PLASTIC)

0	Foam Peanuts (styrofoam packaging)
0	Fast Food Containers, Cups, Plates
0	Styrofoam Pieces

SMOKING RELATED ITEMS

0	Cigarette Butts
0	Cigar Tips
0	Disposable Lighters

PAPER ITEMS

0	Paper Bags
0	Cardboard, Newspaper, Magazines
0	Fast Food Containers, Cups, Plates

METAL ITEMS

0	Metal Lids, Caps, Pulls
0	Batteries

MEDICAL AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

0	Syringes, Needles
0	Diapers
0	Condoms
0	Tampons, Tampon Applicators
0	Band Aids, Bandages

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. ⊙ At All Beaches) and click the *Next* button. Descriptions of each chart type are included below the following image.

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*.

5. **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).

6. **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.

7. 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.