

## Dear Marine Environment Protector:

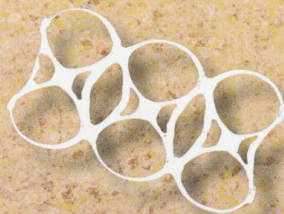
Dear Marine Environment Protector:  
The United States Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) have created this brochure to remind all of us that our litter should be carefully placed in the appropriate place so that it doesn't end up fouling our oceans, rivers and lakes. We cannot take our marine environment for granted, nor treat it carelessly.

Please help us in our mission to reduce marine debris by doing the following:

- Make copies of the brochure and put it in prominent areas of your home, work, schools and community centers to inform and remind people of the importance of treating litter responsibly. We suggest you print it on 80# gloss or cover (recycled) paper for best reproduction and quality.
- Be an example in your community by organizing waterfront clean ups.
- Be a "Save our Seas" partner by reminding people to put their litter in the proper receptacles.

We're sure you can think of more ways to get the word out! Thank you for joining us in our efforts to "Save our Seas". Together, we can make a difference!!!

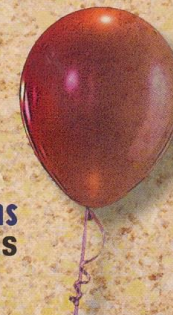
For more information, or to share your good ideas, reach us at [contact@namepa.net](mailto:contact@namepa.net).



**Six-pack holders**  
400 Years



**Cigarette Butts**  
1-5 Years



**Balloons**  
6 months



**Orange & Banana Peels**  
2 to 5 weeks



**Plastic Coated Paper**  
3 months

**Plastic Containers**  
450 Years



**Aluminium Cans**  
50 Years



**Plastic Bags**  
10-20 Years



**Wool Socks**  
1-5 Years



**Nylon**  
600 Years



**Leather**  
50 to 80 Years



**Glass Bottles**  
1,000 Years





**Right where you left it  
—FOR YEARS!**

**The United States Coast Guard,  
Coast Guard Auxiliary and NAMEPA  
urge you to place your trash in  
appropriate receptacles.**

**Each of us plays a role  
in keeping our  
planet whole.**



#### ABOUT THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The U.S. Coast Guard is one of the five armed forces of the United States and the only military organization within the Department of Homeland Security. Since 1790 the Coast Guard has safeguarded our maritime and environmental interests around the world. The Coast Guard is an adaptable, responsive military force of maritime professionals whose broad legal authorities, capable assets, geographic diversity and expansive partnerships provide a persistent presence along our rivers, in the ports, littoral regions and on the high seas. Coast Guard presence and impact is local, regional, national and international. These attributes make the Coast Guard a unique instrument of maritime safety, security and environmental stewardship. [www.uscg.mil](http://www.uscg.mil)



#### ABOUT THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Established by Congress in 1939 under title 14, §§ 23 of the U.S. Code, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is Semper Paratus (Always Ready). The overarching mission of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is to contribute to the safety and security of our citizens, ports, and waterways. We balance our missions of Recreational Boating Safety and Coast Guard Support with Maritime Homeland Security and other challenges that emerge as a result of a post-9/11 era. [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org)

North American Marine Environment Protection Association



#### ABOUT NAMEPA

NAMEPA (North American Marine Environment Protection Association) is a maritime industry-led initiative which operates as a voluntary, non-profit and nongovernmental organization committed to preserving the marine environment through educating seafarers, port communities and students about the need, and strategies, for protecting this important global resource and engages maritime businesses, government and the public to "Save our Seas" by promoting sound environmental practices. [www.namepa.net](http://www.namepa.net)

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[www.namepa.net](http://www.namepa.net)

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**DO YOU  
KNOW  
WHERE  
YOUR  
LITTER IS?**



North American Marine Environment Protection Association

