

BLOG 5

Junky Education

(Junky, not Junkie lol)

Being in the cleanup business, I've noticed a huge difference in the types of Junk that affects our beautiful Rhode Island coastlines. It basically breaks down into four distinct categories. Litter, Marine Debris, lost/forgotten items and Pollution.

LITTER: This is the stuff that pisses me off the most. It is the carelessness of us human beings. Litter is the booze bottles, beer and soda cans, snack wrappers and fast-food containers thrown from car windows, left buried in the sand and just tossed to the ground in our parks, nature preserves, hiking trails on sidewalks and in parking lots. It's a disgusting act of entitlement by us on this planet. It is killing the place we live, and it takes only a TINY amount of effort and awareness to get this stuff to a proper waste receptacle instead of destroying our environment. You know, the one we depend on for survival? UGH. I hate it. There is no respect for the literal hand that feeds you, provides your water, and is critical to sustain life as we know it. **STOP LITTERING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

MARINE DEBRIS: This is the stuff that you see wrapped around seals necks, sitting on our beaches and seen floating in the bays and inlets of fishing ports and it is very bad for all marine life and the environment, BUT it is mostly not intentional. It is the ropes, fishing lines, nets, plastic barrels and containers, rubber gloves, and other fishing equipment. I know a lot of people that bad mouth fishermen for this stuff, but in reality they really don't want to be losing this stuff to the sea. This equipment is their livelihood and costs them money. Storms and rough weather tear this stuff from their boats and off the sea floor of their fishing grounds. It's unfortunately a part of enjoying having seafood to eat. This is why whenever I find usable equipment with an identifying tag on it, I return it to the fishermen through the DEM marine fisheries dept. So it can be reused instead of filling landfills.

LOST/FORGOTTEN ITEMS: Is what it is. People forget and lose stuff. They aren't doing it on purpose... I pick it up and keep on kickin' down the coastline. If it's reusable, I'll throw it in a yard sale to raise funds for our nonprofit.

POLLUTION: This is the real nasty stuff. Fallout from our high human ambitions and needs, and, our bodily waste. These are the oil spills, illegal chemical dumping, buried nuclear wastes, Septic leaks, vehicle emissions, sewage runoffs and energy plant outputs. This shit is PLANET KILLING. And there's nothing a company like us can do about it. Not even make a tiny dent. These issues must be addressed by the ENTIRE human population working together to create a sustainable way of living. We have good intentions with

climate control and pollution abatement but its to little and too slow. We aren't keeping up with the output. We need catastrophic major change in the way we operate as an entire species or we WILL reach a breaking point with our environment. Write your local leaders, get involved in the change that needs to happen. As regular citizens we sometimes feel powerless against all the governmental policies and litigations needed to be confronted but If all the little guys speak up together we are louder than the powers that be. It takes a united front for a healthy change to take place.

WHATS IN YOUR CONTROL... Littering... Don't do it, and if you see someone else do it, pick it up and throw it back at him lol... Marine debris... If your going to the beach or coastline take a small bag and help pick it up. Not much effort is needed if we all did just a little bit ... Lost/forgotten items... stop losing and forgetting them. Airtag your damn socks lol (we find a lot of socks)... pollution... activism. Get loud and get involved. Big changes need to be made. Use less fossil fuels, recycle, conserve electricity in your home, dont put chemicals down the drain, put more plants or trees in your yard. Be. A. Good. Human. That is all