

## Clean Ocean Action's ~10 Tips For Kids~



- 1. Get involved.** Join your school's environmental club or an environmental organization in your community. If there isn't one - start one!
- 2. Think globally - learn and act locally.** Visit local nature centers and parks to learn about your environment. Organize a cleanup of your school or a local park, plant a garden, or write letters to elected officials and tell them to protect your community's environment.
- 3. Conserve energy.** Walk, ride your bike, carpool, or take public transportation whenever possible. Turn off lights, TVs, and radios, and unplug rechargers when not in use.
- 4. Conserve water.** On average, each American uses 80 -100 gallons of water daily. Take short showers and turn off the water while brushing your teeth. If you see a leaky faucet, make sure it gets fixed.
- 5. Scoop the Poop.** Clean up after your dog, it's the law! Dispose of dog waste properly by putting it in a garbage can or flushing it down the toilet -- don't flush the bag/newspaper.
- 6. Slash your trash.** Use reusable products, such as bags, lunch boxes, water bottles, and utensils. Look for products made from recycled materials and contains less packaging. Reduce the use of disposable plastics such as bottles, straws, lighters, cups, diapers, razors, and pens.



- 7. Learn how to recycle in your town.** Each town has individual guidelines on how to recycle.

Contact your local public works department for information.

**8. Give back to the earth.** Give your friends and family "green" gifts, such as plants or "adopted" endangered species. Gifts of nature will never sit in a landfill.

**9. Squeaky Clean & Green.** Encourage your home and school to use eco-safe, non-toxic cleaning and lawn care products and to use integrated pest management practices. See COA's "10 Tips for Cleaning" and "10 Tips for Lawn & Garden".

**10. Trash or treasure?** Sell or give away your unwanted items so someone else can use them. Visit your local thrift shops or use Craigslist.com, [FreeCycle.org](http://FreeCycle.org), EBay.com, or Earth911.org to find places to buy or sell used products.



*Nonpoint source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution. This pollution has many sources, including stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. Though people and their everyday habits are often the source of pollution, we can easily become the solution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.*

For more information and the complete 10 Tip Series visit:



**[www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org)**

49 Avenel Blvd.

Long Branch, NJ 07740

(732) 872-0111

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