

PORT PHILLIP BAYKEEPER SHORELINE SHELL SURVEY

Beach name:

Date:

Start landmark:

End landmark:

Start time:

Finish time:

Survey by:

Email / phone:

Measure shell size					
10mm	20mm	30mm	40mm	50mm	80mm
Number in survey area					

shell number	Name of shell (if known) or brief description	one only	less than 10	10 to 50	51 to 100	more than 100	shell size at longest and widest points
1							L: W:
2							L: W:
3							L: W:
4							L: W:
5							L: W:
6							L: W:
7							L: W:
8							L: W:
9							L: W:
10							L: W:
11							L: W:
12							L: W:
13							L: W:
14							L: W:
15							L: W:

Notes on beach condition: eg, seaweeds present, litter items, beach erosion, dead fish... anything unusual?

Your survey results will be combined with those of other contributors right around the bay. By January 2010 we hope to have good information from all beaches, to compare with historical data published in the 1960s. This will allow us to note any changes. The project will also show what makes each beach special, provide information for local brochures, and perhaps even a book of Port Phillip Bay shells.



HOW TO DO THE PORT PHILLIP BAYKEEPER SHORELINE SHELL SURVEY

AT THE BEACH:

1. Choose two landmarks at least 50 paces apart to mark the start and finish of the survey area (eg. pole, tree, pier, bin, street name). Note landmarks at top of survey sheet.
2. Walk slowly along the high tide line to find different types of shells
Include pieces of broken shell if they are obviously different species.
3. When you find a new shell: photograph it on the beach where you find it.
Photos will be preferably digital camera shots.
4. Whenever you take a photo: fill in the survey details next to the shell number.
Use the scale on the survey sheet to measure the length and width of the shell.
5. A rough estimate of the abundance of each species is OK. No need to count every shell!

AT HOME:

6. When downloading photos, name each photo to include:
beach name, your initials, date, and shell number on survey sheet.
Eg. **Altona jm 270209 sh13**
7. Burn your photos onto a CD.
8. Mail the CD and survey sheet to: Neil Blake
Port Phillip Baykeeper
c/- Port Phillip EcoCentre
55A Blessington Street
9. Please tell us if you have any problems with the survey method, or suggestions to improve it.

baykeeper@ecocentre.com

www.bay-keeper.com

www.ecocentre.com

Ph. 9534 0670

Information about shells:

Australian Marine Life	Graham J Edgar. Reed New Holland
Bayside Beaches of Port Phillip	Raymond V Lewis
Coastal Invertebrates of Victoria	Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Marine Research Group
Marine Molluscs of Victoria	MacPherson & Gabriel. Melb Uni Press & National Museum of Vic
Seahells of South-East Australia	Patty Jansen. Capricornia Publications
Victoria's Rocky Intertidal Coast	Eds. Rebecca Koss & Dr Tim O'Hara

Many thanks for your contribution!