



PORT PHILLIP BAY CATCHMENTS - BEACH LITTER AUDIT DATASHEET



Beach name: _____ **Date:** _____
Beach transect: *Widest*
Start landmark: _____ **Transect direction (compass reading):** _____
Distance from start landmark (top of beach) to last high tide line: _____ **Start & Finish times:** _____
Survey by: _____ **Email/phone:** _____

Note: use the blank fields under each MATERIAL TYPE to record harmful items not already listed on the datasheet.									
MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total	MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total
Plastics					sauce sachets				
bags - bait					smoothy cups / lids				
bags - ice					soy sauce (fish)				
bags - shopping (grey)					straws				
bags - shopping (white)					syringes				
bags - shopping					takeaway food tubs (hard)				
bottles - soft drink					takeaway food lids (hard)				
bottles - fruit juice / milk					ties (cable)				
bottles - water					tile spacers				
bottle caps					Polystyrene				
bottles - cleaning					beads				
bubble wrap					cups				
cartons - fruit juice / milk					food boxes / trays				
cellophane wrap					pieces <5mm				
cigarette lighters					pieces 5mm +				
cigarette butts					packaging				
cling wrap / film					Glass				
cups / cup lids					broken pieces				
confectionery wraps					bottles - beer				
dental floss					bottles - beer stubbie				
fishing line					bottles - soft drink				
fishing lures					bottles - wine				
food jars / lids					jars				
food packaging (soft)					Metal				
forks, knives, spoons					aluminium foil				
lollypop sticks					bottle tops - metal				
nurdles					cans - aerosol				
pens / markers					cans - beer				
pieces - hard <5mm					cans - soft drink				
pieces - hard 5mm +					cans - spirits				
pieces - soft <5mm					fish hooks				
pieces - soft 5mm +					Rubber / Elastic				
rope / twine					balloons &/or ties				
6 pack can-holders					bands				
strapping (scrap)					foam rubber pieces				
strapping (whole)					hair ties				
NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT - Record any plastic items not listed on datasheet									
1. TOP OF BEACH	2. MID BEACH		3. HIGH TIDE		OTHER NOTES				

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Has the beach been raked or cleaned in the past 24 hours (tick)

Yes

No

Not sure



PORT PHILLIP BAY CATCHMENTS - BEACH LITTER AUDIT DATASHEET

Beach name

Date

Beach transect (tick):

Mid section

Start landmark

Transect direction (compass reading)

Distance from start landmark (top of beach) to last high tide line

Start & Finish times

Survey by

Email/phone

Note: use the blank fields under each MATERIAL TYPE to record harmful items not already listed on the datasheet.

MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total	MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total
Plastics					sauce sachets				
bags - bait					smoothy cups / lids				
bags - ice					soy sauce (fish)				
bags - shopping (grey)					straws				
bags - shopping (white)					syringes				
bags - shopping					takeaway food tubs (hard)				
bottles - soft drink					takeaway food lids (hard)				
bottles - fruit juice / milk					ties (cable)				
bottles - water					tile spacers				
bottle caps					Polystyrene				
bottles - cleaning					beads				
bubble wrap					cups				
cartons - fruit juice / milk					food boxes / trays				
cellophane wrap					pieces <5mm				
cigarette lighters					pieces 5mm +				
cigarette butts					packaging				
cling wrap / film					Glass				
cups / cup lids					broken pieces				
confectionery wraps					bottles - beer				
dental floss					bottles - beer stubbie				
fishing line					bottles - soft drink				
fishing lures					bottles - wine				
food jars / lids					jars				
food packaging (soft)					Metal				
forks, knives, spoons					aluminium foil				
lollypop sticks					bottle tops - metal				
nurdles					cans - aerosol				
pens / markers					cans - beer				
pieces - hard <5mm					cans - soft drink				
pieces - hard 5mm +					cans - spirits				
pieces - soft <5mm					fish hooks				
pieces - soft 5mm +					Rubber / Elastic				
rope / twine					balloons &/or ties				
6 pack can-holders					bands				
strapping (scrap)					foam rubber pieces				
strapping (whole)					hair ties				

NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT - Record any plastic items not listed on datasheet

1. TOP OF BEACH	2. MID BEACH	3. HIGH TIDE	OTHER NOTES
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<i>Has the beach been raked or cleaned in the past 24 hours (tick)</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Not sure</i>



PORT PHILLIP BAY CATCHMENTS BEACH LITTER AUDIT DATASHEET

Beach name

Date

Beach transect (tick):

Narrowest

Start landmark

Transect direction (compass reading)

Distance from start landmark (top of beach) to last high tide line

Start & Finish times

Survey by

Email/phone

Note: use the blank fields under each MATERIAL TYPE to record harmful items not already listed on the datasheet.

MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total	MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Quadrat 2	Quadrat 3	Total	
Plastics					sauce sachets					
bags - bait					smoothy cups / lids					
bags - ice					soy sauce (fish)					
bags - shopping (grey)					straws					
bags - shopping (white)					syringes					
bags - shopping					takeaway food tubs (hard)					
bottles - soft drink					takeaway food lids (hard)					
bottles - fruit juice / milk					ties (cable)					
bottles - water					tile spacers					
bottle caps					Polystyrene					
bottles - cleaning					beads					
bubble wrap					cups					
cartons - fruit juice / milk					food boxes / trays					
cellophane wrap					pieces <5mm					
cigarette lighters					pieces 5mm +					
cigarette butts					packaging					
cling wrap / film					Glass					
cups / cup lids					broken pieces					
confectionery wraps					bottles - beer					
dental floss					bottles - beer stubbie					
fishing line					bottles - soft drink					
fishing lures					bottles - wine					
food jars / lids					jars					
food packaging (soft)					Metal					
forks, knives, spoons					aluminium foil					
lollipop sticks					bottle tops - metal					
nurdles					cans - aerosol					
pens / markers					cans - beer					
pieces - hard <5mm					cans - soft drink					
pieces - hard 5mm +					cans - spirits					
pieces - soft <5mm					fish hooks					
pieces - soft 5mm +					Rubber / Elastic					
rope / twine					balloons &/or ties					
6 pack can-holders					bands					
strapping (scrap)					foam rubber pieces					
strapping (whole)					hair ties					
NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT - Record any plastic items not listed on datasheet										
1. TOP OF BEACH		2. MID BEACH			3. HIGH TIDE			OTHER NOTES		

<i>Has the beach been raked or cleaned in the past 24 hours (tick)</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Not sure</i>

GUIDE TO BEACH LITTER AUDITS

BEFORE YOU START: Have First Aid Kit and gloves on-site. Check entire site to note possible hazards.

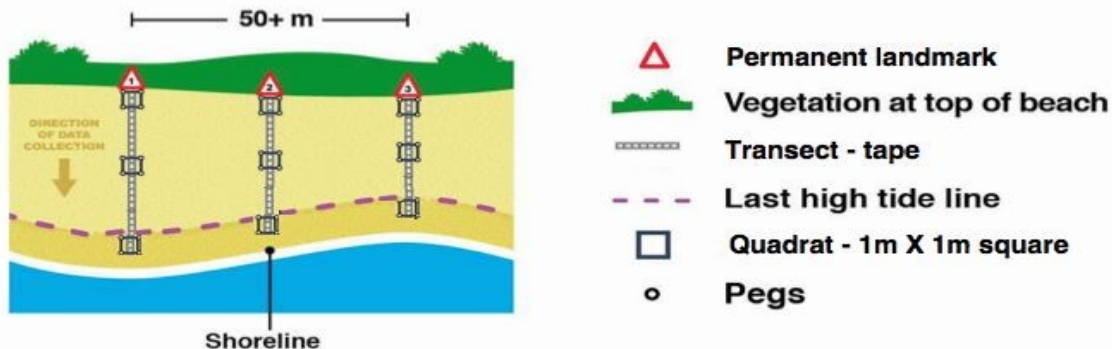
Warn all collectors: **DON'T PUT YOUR FINGERS WHERE YOU CAN'T SEE THEM!**

PURPOSE: Reference sites on beaches are regularly audited to track any increase or decrease of litter items that are known to *threaten wildlife and/or human health, or are the subject of ongoing campaigns*, eg Container Deposit Legislation. The data will help make a case for legislation, education, infrastructure and enforcement to reduce these items in our waterways.

The data is entered into the Port Phillip Bay Litter Database and the '*Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database*'.

Litter is recorded as collected from 3 transects (lines along which observations/records are made) located at the *Widest, Narrowest* and *Mid sections* of the beach to give **representative samples of all conditions** on the beach.

Each transect has 3 *quadrats* (1m x 1m square) located at the *top of the beach*, the *last high tide line*, and *midway* between.



Shoreline graphic and legend by Michael Beasley

EQUIPMENT: 50m tape measure, compass, clip board, datasheet, pen, 12 tent pegs, gloves, collection bags or buckets.

GUIDE TO AUDIT SET-UP

1. A permanent structure at the top of the beach serves as the starting point for repeated surveys of the 3 transects.
2. Describe the *permanent landmark* at the top of the beach in the "*Start landmark*" field at top left side of the datasheet.
3. Run the tape measure across the beach towards the closest point on the shoreline to set the transect direction.
4. At the *start landmark*, use a compass to find the transect direction across the beach. Record the direction on the datasheet. Use the same direction for all 3 transects.
5. As you cross the beach look for the last high tide line (usually a trail of seaweed along the beach).
Each transect runs from the permanent landmark at the top of the beach to 1m past the last high-tide line.
6. Record the distance from top of beach to last high tide at the top left of the datasheet.
7. Mark the end of the transect with a peg 1m past the last high-tide line
8. Leave tape measure in place across the beach and insert pegs 0.5m either side of start and end points.
9. Divide the distance from transect start to finish by 2 in order to calculate the location of the middle quadrat.
10. At the top of the beach, place tent pegs to mark each corner of the 1m X 1m square quadrat (litter data collection zone).
11. Begin litter data collection in quadrat 1 (top of the beach), proceeding to quadrat 2 (middle) and quadrat 3 (high-tide line).

TIPS ON LITTER COLLECTION

TO SAVE TIME: each collector should target a particular item, eg 'cigarette butts' and collect and count 5 of them before telling the Data Recorder as they put the litter into the collection bag.

All litter in audit area quadrats is to be collected, recorded, bagged, and responsibly disposed.

NOTE: *If any litter is collected from outside of the quadrats please don't record it on this datasheet.*

TIPS ON DATA RECORDING

A separate datasheet is required for each transect. Be sure to complete all details at the top of datasheet!

Be sure to record the number of items in the correct quadrat column (1,2 or 3).

Blank fields under each **MATERIAL TYPE** column are for recording *harmful litter items* found that are not listed on the sheet.

If you run out of space in a quadrat column for a particular item, write the name of the item in one of the *blank fields*.

Any additional unlisted items are to be recorded in the appropriate column under **NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT**.

To save time and space, record items in groups of 5 as they go in the bag.

Put a comma after each entry so it's clear that 5,5 means 10 (not 55).

Send completed audit to:

Port Phillip Baykeeper
Port Phillip EcoCentre
55A Blessington St
St Kilda VIC 3182
baykeeper@ecocentre.com
www.bay-keeper.com

Any queries? Phone Neil Blake 0409 138 565

More information:

Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database

<http://www.tangaroablue.org/database.html>

Victorian Litter Action Alliance

<http://www.litter.vic.gov.au/>

CSIRO

<https://blog.csiro.au/tag/marine-debris/>

Beach Patrol Australia

<http://www.beachpatrol.com.au/>