



Action today so future generations can to enjoy ocean activities

## Newport-Bermuda Race Balloon Campaign

We need your help! We are asking that every boat, when time permits, keep track of the balloons you see during the race. By keeping track of balloon debris and taking this data, you will be contributing to a larger campaign bringing awareness to the harmful effects of balloons and working towards a ban on balloons.

Balloons are truly a single-use item. When released, they can end up in our oceans causing a number of problems including harming marine animals and contributing to marine debris.

A deflated balloon in the water column can easily resemble a wreck havoc on the stomach of marine animals when consumed. example, can mistake a balloon fragment for a jellyfish. It can get stomachs, not properly digested, and cause the animals to starve. harmful effect of balloons is entanglement. When an animal entangled in balloon string, it can prohibit them from moving and properly causing starvation or even strangulation marine animals



jellyfish and Turtles, for caught in their Another becomes eating and sea birds.

When skipper of V-065 'Turn the Tide on Plastic', Dee Caffari, was asked at the Ocean Summit in Newport what pollution she noticed the most during the 2018 Volvo Ocean Race, she answered "balloons." As sailors, we are able to experience so much of the ocean many people would only dream of seeing. Let's work together to make a difference and bring awareness to the very real and imminent problem of the harmful effect of balloons.



We have attached a simple balloon tracking sheet and ask that when time allows, and you see balloons in the ocean, to please fill out the sheet and help provide important data that will later be used in reports and campaigns to bring awareness to the effects of marine debris.

To fill out the sheet:

1. Write the DATE you saw the balloon
2. Write the LOCATION (Lat/Long) that you saw the balloon (as specific as possible)
3. Take a PICTURE if possible and write any NOTES (ex: condition, latex, mylar, etc.)

We thank you for your time and efforts as a citizen scientist!

Please direct all questions and tracking sheets (and pictures) to Dave McLaughlin at Clean Ocean Access.

Contact information:

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