

# Did you know?

- ➔ **6.5 million tons of litter enter the world's oceans each year.**
- ➔ **50% of the litter in the ocean is long-lasting plastic which will drift for hundreds of years before it is degraded.**
- ➔ **Worldwide, 100,000 marine animals and turtles are killed annually by plastic litter.**
- ➔ **Healthy watersheds provide ample opportunities for recreation and ecotourism.**
- ➔ **Mangrove trees can store up to five times more carbon than an equal area of rainforest. This capture and storage prevents the carbon from entering the atmosphere.**
- ➔ **Mangroves assist in improving water quality by filtering runoff and trapping sediments and debris from adjacent uplands. They also stabilize the coastline, helping prevent devastating storm surge damage from hurricanes.**
- ➔ **Excessive inland litter can clog storm drains and lead to damaging street flooding and contamination of our waterways.**
- ➔ **Visible results lead to heightened community interest in reducing litter and preserving the environment.**
- ➔ **Getting involved in a neighborhood cleanup is a great way to create awareness in your area and can lay the groundwork for future litter-reducing efforts.**