



Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution

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Message from the Guest Editor

Plastics are produced for a variety of applications. It has been estimated that plastics constitute about 80% of all marine litter. The contamination of marine ecosystems by plastic litter may lead to marine pollution. It has been reported that plastic pollution in marine ecosystems is the most widespread problem affecting the marine environment. Large plastics are photodegraded to microplastics (less than 5 mm in size). Microplastics can also be produced such as the microbeads found in several personal care products. The impact of microplastics on marine life is still under investigation, but it is known that they can come into direct contact with cell membranes, leading to significant stretching of the lipid bilayer that potentially leads to serious dysfunction of the cell. This Special Issue focuses on the current state of knowledge regarding pollution by marine litter and plastic pollution. Papers dealing with new approaches to removing or the risk assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution are also welcome. Methodological papers, position papers, brief reports, and commentaries will also be accepted.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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