

Sea turtles come ashore for many reasons - to rest, nest or recover.

If you come across a turtle on the beach:

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE; DO NOT TOUCH

- Turtles are wild animals and are vulnerable on land. Do not distress the turtle by approaching, touching or trying to move it.
- Keep your dog away.

DO NOT PUSH TURTLES BACK INTO THE WATER

- Sick, injured or resting turtles do not need to be assisted back into the water.
- Sick or injured turtles come ashore to conserve energy and recuperate. If the animal shows signs of injury, phone the **Marine Strandings Hotline** for advice, or report via the **QWildlife app**.
- Resting, or basking, turtles will return to the water when they are ready. Turtles bask to help regulate body temperature and conserve energy.
- Resting turtles may have also escaped from unwanted attention and will return when ready.

KEEP AWAY FROM NESTING TURTLES

- Keep your distance from nesting turtles.
- Turn off lights, do not use flash photography and keep quiet. Stay behind the turtle at a distance.
- Nesting females will abandon their attempt if disturbed or threatened.
- Do not interfere with hatchlings heading for the ocean. In instances where hatchlings are heading towards house or street lights, carefully pick up the hatchling and place back on the beach facing the ocean.
- Let hatchlings run down the beach to the ocean.



**MARINE
STRANDINGS
HOTLINE**
1300 130 372



QWILDLIFE



What you can do to help protect marine wildlife

The most effective way you can contribute to protecting marine and coastal habitats and wildlife is to be mindful of the choices you make at home.

- Say no to plastics.
- Reuse, recycle, repurpose.
- Dispose of rubbish appropriately.

REDUCE PLASTICS

- Avoid produce and products wrapped in soft plastics. Soft plastics are not readily recyclable.
- Choose reusable over single-use plastic items like shopping bags, cups, drink bottles and cutlery.
- Choose products that are refillable or have recyclable containers.
- Say no to plastic toothbrushes, cotton buds with plastic sticks and disposable razors.

PICK IT UP

- Make the effort to pick up rubbish wherever you are.
- Bin your (cigarette) butt. Better yet, stop smoking!

RECYCLE OR REUSE

- Check Council guidelines and recycle everything you can to reduce landfill.
- Check with donation centres to rehome clothes, furniture and other goods.
- Repurpose and reuse spray bottles, containers, fabric.

USE LESS CHEMICALS

- Reduce use of household chemicals to help decrease the amount of pollutants and toxins entering waterways.
- Kitchen cleaners and laundry detergents can be swapped for multi-purpose eco-friendly options.
- Choose ocean safe shampoos, soaps, scrubs and sunscreen.
- Use organic fertilisers and pesticides in your garden.



Tangarora Blue's **2024 Reef Clean Report** identified hard plastics as the number one type of marine debris collected from beaches.

- Hard plastic remnants
- Plastic lids/tops
- Insulation & packaging
- Plastic drink bottles
- Glass, ceramics (broken)
- Synthetic rope & net scraps <1m
- Soft plastic film remnants
- Rubber footwear & thongs
- Plastic food packaging
- Plastic bleach & cleaner bottles

