

Lee County Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program

Did you know....

Discarded monofilament fishing line can last over 600 years when left in the environment?

Marine life such as sea turtles, dolphins, birds, manatees and fish can ingest or become entangled in discarded line, which can result in serious injury or death?

Boat propellers can become entangled in discarded line leading to costly repairs?

Divers have been known to drown after becoming entangled in discarded monofilament line?



What's the problem?



FFWCC

Monofilament fishing line, when left in the environment poses a serious threat to marine life. Sea turtles, manatees, birds, fish and dolphins may swallow or become entangled in discarded line, which can result in serious injury or death. However, discarded monofilament line is not only hazardous to wildlife. Divers have been known to drown as result of entanglement and boaters have had to make costly repairs due to entangled propellers.

Be a responsible angler:

- Don't leave your line behind! Safely secure your line until you can place it a recycling bin.
- Collect any discarded line, debris or other abandoned gear you encounter.
- Practice your casting skills to prevent the loss of gear.
- Cast with care! Survey the area where you cast to avoid snagging your line on objects such as mangroves or utility lines.
- Do not feed wildlife as this encourages animals to approach fishing boats and anglers.
- Make every attempt to safely retrieve your line if it gets snagged or breaks.
- Participate in a monofilament recycling program and/or local clean up efforts.

Remember, it is illegal to improperly discard fishing line. Do your part to be an ethical angler



Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program



The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by monofilament line left in the environment. Originally started in Brevard County, the program is now implemented in over 35 counties. The main goals of the MRRP are to:

1. Raise public awareness of the harmful effects discarded monofilament line has on marine life and the environment.
2. Reduce the amount of monofilament line in state's waterways.
3. Involve local volunteer groups/ agencies in accomplishing the goals of the monofilament recycling program through active participation.

How does MRRP work?

Anglers place discarded line in designated monofilament recycling bins. **Be sure to remove hooks, leaders and any bait before placing line into the bins.*

Volunteers empty discarded line from bins and clean up the line.

Cleaned line is taken to designated indoor monofilament recycling bins at local tackleshops/ businesses.

Collected line is sent to Iowa where it is melted down and recycled into new fishing products.

For More Information or to Learn Where Monofilament Recycling Bins are Located in Lee County please call:

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