

# “But it’s just a piece of fishing line...how harmful can it be?”



From 1980-1999 one in every five manatee rescues was a result of entanglement in fishing line (monofilament).

From 1996-2000, the Florida Marine Research Institute documented 163 turtles that were entangled in fishing line.



Between 1995-2000 approximately 35 dolphins in the SE US died as a result of monofilament-related injuries.



Researchers have documented over 60 species of fish that have swallowed or become entangled in marine debris.

During 1999-2000 over 250 seabirds were rescued due to hook and line entanglements, of those, 92 died.



Fishing line can be recycled—look for recycling boxes in your local tackle shop, or for recycling stations at outdoor fishing and boating locations.



For information about fishing line recycling in Lee County, Florida, call the Sea Grant Extension Office at 239-461-7518.

