

Monitoring Toolbox

The **Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project**, or **MDMAP**, engages NOAA partners and volunteers around the world to survey and record the amount and types of marine debris on shorelines.

How big is the marine debris problem, and how is it changing over time? What types of debris are most common in your region? MDMAP survey data can help to answer these questions and can be used to guide marine debris policy development, provide education and outreach, and address important research questions.

This Toolbox contains resources for both current and new MDMAP partner organizations and volunteers.

New to MDMAP and looking for steps to get started?

1. Start by reviewing our [tutorial series](#).
2. Review the protocol documents and field datasheets in this toolbox.
3. Decide if you want to survey an existing active site, rejuvenate a historical site, or start a new MDMAP site in your area. A map of all existing MDMAP sites can be found [here](#).
4. [Request an account](#) if you'll be entering data. MDMAP staff will work with you to set up your account.
5. Reach out to md.monitoring@noaa.gov(link sends e-mail) with any questions.
6. Begin surveying

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