

# Turtles are fantastic!

Turtles are magnificent animals of prehistoric origins and appearance. The endangered Loggerhead turtle and the vulnerable Flatback turtle and Green turtle emerge annually from the ocean to nest on Bundaberg beaches, especially in the world renowned turtle rookery at Mon Repos.

Unfortunately very few hatchling turtles survive to reach maturity. Humans contribute many of the threats to turtles including:

## 🦘 Lights

Research shows that nesting turtle and hatchling activity is detrimentally affected by artificial lights. The increasing glow from urban areas is disturbing nesting turtles and hatchlings are attracted and travel towards the artificial light and away from the ocean.

## 🦘 Plastics and pollution

Our oceans are filling with plastics. Plastic affects many marine animals through ingestion and entanglement and can cause illness and death. Reduce plastic use and protect the future of our oceans.



## 🦘 Boat strike

Turtles can be struck by boats and boat propellers as they come to the surface to breathe, resulting in injury and death. Seasonal Go Slow zones are in place to help reduce the instances of boat strike.

## 🦘 Ghost nets and fishing tackle

Old discarded fishing nets, lines, crab pots and rope continue to float through our oceans, catching many unsuspecting marine animals.

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## What can you do?

- 🦘 Cut the glow
- 🦘 Say NO to plastic
- 🦘 Slow down when boating
- 🦘 Ensure rubbish doesn't enter our waterways





## Turtles are fantastic *Say NO to plastics!*



Plastics and pollution: our oceans are filling with plastics. Plastic affects many marine animals through ingestion and entanglement and causes illness and death. This is a global problem however the solution starts at home.

Do you feel like you are drowning in plastic? With the single use plastic bag ban in full swing in Queensland, many people are seeking alternatives to reduce other plastic use in our lives.

## *Say NO to plastics!*



### Consider using fabric shopping bags

Reusable and washable and can be found in great patterns to brighten up your shopping trolley.



### Naked fruit and veggies

Do your bananas really need to go into a plastic produce bag? Keep your fruit and veggies naked and reduce plastic use!

Alternatively use produce bags for fruit and veggies made from cotton or mesh fabric that are reusable and washable.



### Consider replacing cling wrap

Try **wax wraps** - replace plastic cling wrap with wax wraps, made from cotton fabric coated in bees wax.

Wrap up your left overs, cover a bowl or use them to wrap your sandwich. They are washable and reusable.

**Silicon bowl covers** - stretched over baking pans and mixing bowls to create an airtight seal. They are easy to clean and reduce the need for single use plastic cling wrap.

**Bento style lunch boxes** - with a huge range of styles to fit snacks and sandwiches, they are a great alternative to wrapping items in cling wrap!



### Consider replacing plastic bin liners

Use a combination of a dry bin, a wet bin and a composting bin.

A great alternative to bin liners is using your current bin as a dry bin. Put dry rubbish, such as non-recyclable wrappers, containers into your current bin **WITHOUT** a plastic bin liner!

And have a small wet bin that is lined with used bread bags or chip packets. Place your 'wet' rubbish into this small bin and then simply tie off and place into your wheelie bin.

Invest in a compost bin for all your fruit and veggie scraps. Not only will this reduce your overall waste going into landfill, but will also provide some great organic compost for your garden.



### When out and about

Say NO to **takeaway coffee cups**

Say NO to **plastic water bottles**

Say NO to **plastic drinking straws**

Say NO to **plastic cutlery**



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*We can all make a difference*