

# 10 ways to protect

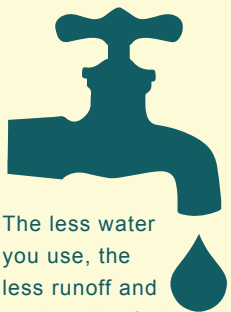
# CORAL REEFS

## Choose sustainable seafood.



Learn how to make smart seafood choices at [www.FishWatch.gov](http://www.FishWatch.gov).

## CONSERVE WATER



The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually find their ways back into the ocean.

## Volunteer!

Volunteer in local beach or reef cleanups. If you don't live near the coast, get involved in protecting your watershed.



Corals are already a gift. Don't give them as presents.

It takes corals decades or longer to create reef structures, so leave them on the reef.

## Long-lasting light bulbs - ARE A - BRIGHT IDEA

Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change is one of the leading threats to coral reef survival.



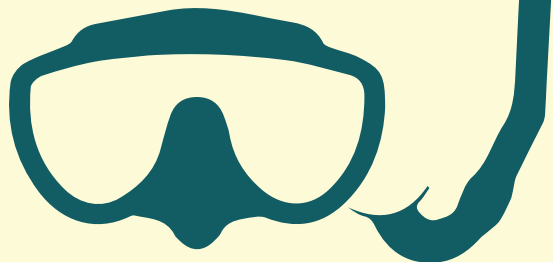
## EDUCATE yourself about coral reefs & the creatures they support.



When you further your own education, you can help others understand the fragility and value of the world's coral reefs.

## IF YOU DIVE DON'T TOUCH.

Coral reefs are alive. Stirred-up sediment can smother corals.



## BE A MARINE DEBRIS CRUSADER.

In addition to picking up your own trash, carry away the trash that others have left behind.

## Don't send chemicals into our waterways.

Nutrients from excess fertilizer increases algae growth that blocks sunlight to corals.



## Practice safe boating.

Anchor in sandy areas away from coral and sea grasses so that the anchor and chain do not drag on nearby corals.



[oceanservice.noaa.gov](http://oceanservice.noaa.gov)