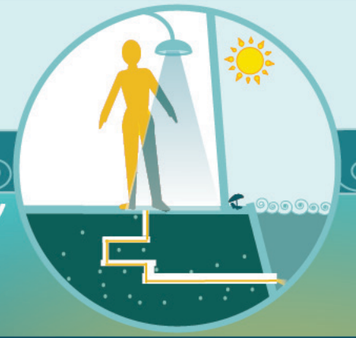
SUNSCREEN CHEMICALS AND MARINE LIFE

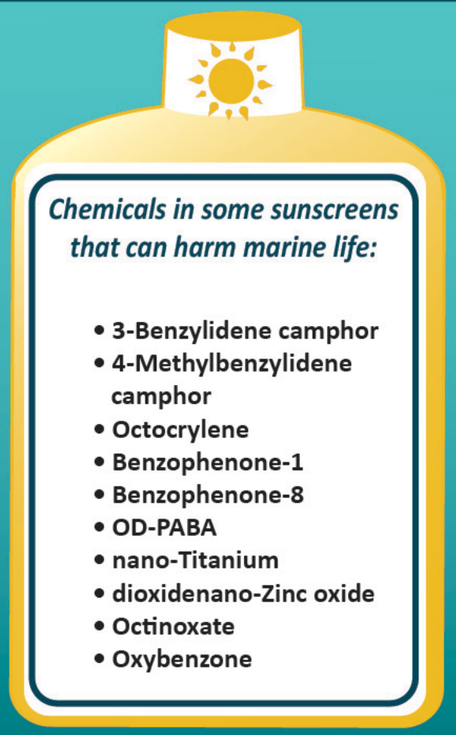
How sunscreen chemicals enter our environment:

The sunscreen you apply may not stay on your skin.

When we swim or shower, sunscreen may wash off and enter our waterways.

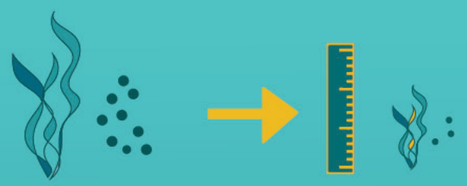


How sunscreen chemicals can affect marine life:



Chemicals in some sunscreens that can harm marine life:

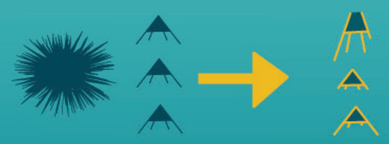
- 3-Benzylidene camphor
- 4-Methylbenzylidene camphor
- Octocrylene
- Benzophenone-1
- Benzophenone-8
- OD-PABA
- nano-Titanium
- dioxidenano-Zinc oxide
- Octinoxate
- Oxybenzone



GREEN ALGAE: Can impair growth and photosynthesis.

CORAL: Accumulates in tissues. Can induce bleaching, damage DNA, deform young and even kill.

MUSSELS: Can induce defects in young.



SEA URCHINS: Can damage immune and reproductive systems, and deform young.

FISH: Can decrease fertility and reproduction, and cause female characteristics in male fish.

DOLPHINS: Can accumulate in tissues and be transferred to young.

Here are a few ways to protect ourselves and marine life:

Consider sunscreen without chemicals that can harm marine life, seek shade between 10 am & 2 pm, and use Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF) sunwear.

Seek shade

Umbrella

Sun hat

Sunscreen

UV Sun glasses

Sun shirt

Leggings

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oceanservice.noaa.gov/sunscreen