

Learn the Trash Facts

The purpose of the Waterway Cleanup is not only to clean the accumulated trash from our waterways and improve our environment, but also to educate and inform members of our community about the importance of proper trash disposal as well as the economic and environmental impact of indiscriminate dumping in the waterways of Broward County.

There are some facts about bulk waste collection and the biodegradability of trash that everyone should know:

What is Bulk Waste?

Bulk waste includes household items such as couches, chairs, mattresses, tables, appliances, carpets, padding and fencing. It also refers to yard waste such as tree trimmings, branches, palm fronds, lumber and metal poles.

Every year our volunteers pull tires, appliances, shopping carts and other types of bulk waste from our waterways and shores. Unfortunately, people who are not aware of the Bulk Waste Collection and Household Hazardous Waste Collection programs run by Broward County Waste and Recycling Services often abuse our natural resource by dumping bulk waste into our lakes and waterways.

What are Biodegradable Materials?

Biodegradable materials are made of components found in nature that decompose on their own over a short period of time. Examples are things like fruit rinds and other foods, animal bones, natural fibers and plant matter, to name a few. Biodegradable materials do not harm the environment and can often be used as either compost or fertilizer to help plants grow.

What are Non-Biodegradable Materials?

Non-biodegradable materials – typically anything man-made out of synthetics, metals, plastics, chemicals and petroleum products such as gasoline, paints, thinners and solvents can pose health risks to both humans and animals and can harm the environment if they are not disposed of properly through city waste management programs.

It is the purpose of Waterway Cleanup to remove bulk waste and non-biodegradable materials from our waterways in an effort to make our environment a cleaner, safer and more beautiful place to live in.