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Sarasota County asks marinas to line up for monofilament recycling program

Sarasota County is asking local marina owners and waterfront condominiums to join its Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP). The program is part of a statewide effort to publicize the problems associated with abandoned monofilament line and to encourage recycling through a network of recycling bins and drop-off locations.

Monofilament line represents a persistent environmental pollutant and is harmful and often fatal to manatees, dolphins, sea turtles, fish and birds. It can also threaten divers and boaters and lasts about 600 years in the marine environment. Project scientist Rachel Herman says the nearly 30 monofilament recycling bins that are already located throughout Sarasota County have prevented thousands of feet of line from becoming a potential hazard.

“These bins provide a place to discard monofilament so that it doesn’t get into our waterways,” said Herman. “Volunteers monitor the bins and collect the line on a regular schedule.”

To adopt a monofilament bin, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000. To learn more about the monofilament recycling program, visit www.fishinglinerecycling.org.