



October 1st - 31st

What are nurdles?

They are small pellets of plastic which are used to make nearly all of our plastic products, and are shipped to factories around the world. They often end up in the environment, washing into our oceans and then onto our beaches.



How can I help?

Together with people around the world, let's raise awareness of this global problem and highlight the need for regulations to stop the escape of these microplastics into our marine environment.

Participate in this [global citizen-science project](#) and clean up nurdles and other microplastics on our beaches at the same time!

What to do

Go to any sandy beach. Bring:

- a bag for rubbish
- a sieve
- something to scoop the sand into your sieve
- a small container for the pellets
- gloves
- chopsticks or tweezers (optional)



Try to reuse things you already have instead of buying them new.

Also note:

- Bring drinking water in a reusable bottle
- Bring sunscreen and bug spray
- Wear closed-toe shoes
- Wear clothing appropriate for the weather, and a hat if sunny



Instructions

1. Pick a dry spot along the high tide line, or anywhere you see nurdles. Note it is difficult to sieve wet sand.
2. Wearing gloves, clear away the bigger debris such as sticks and rocks, then scoop the upper layer of sand into your sieve and shake low to the ground to remove the sand. Don't scoop too deep to avoid wet sand.
3. Each time you clear your sieve of sand, pick out the nurdles and collect them in a container. You may find it is necessary to remove your gloves to do this. If you do, please be aware of anything that looks sharp. You may wish to use chopsticks or tweezers to pick up the pellets. Throw any other plastic debris that you find into your rubbish bag. Try not to throw away any shells, sticks, sand or other natural material.
4. When you are finished, count and take pictures of the nurdles/location and go to www.nurdlehunt.org.uk to upload your details and pictures as requested. You can either keep the nurdles to use them to educate others about the problem, or carefully dispose of them with the other rubbish you have collected. If you have a large amount, contact PFS and we can handle them.

If you would like to join an organised Nurdle Hunt, we will be at the following beaches. Email your name and number of participants to dana@plasticfreeseas.org to sign up. Limited equipment available.

- **Sun Oct 10, 10am – 12pm: Shek O (main beach)**
Meet at the east end of the beach, near the sitting out area
- **Sun Oct 24, 10am – 12pm: Discovery Bay (main beach)**
Meet on the beach near the playground



Note: If you join one of our organised cleanups, you can give your sorted nurdles to us and we will include them in the overall count for the beach that day.