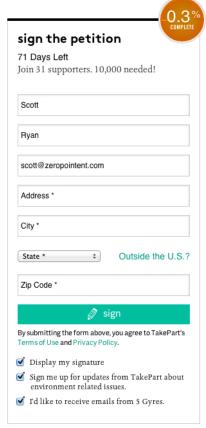


Browse Actions

PETITION

My Impact Dashboard



Get Plastic off My Face and out of My Water



(Photo:Georgette Douwma/Getty Images)

empowered by



5 Gyres' mission is to conduct research and communicate about the global impact of plastic pollution in the world's oceans and employ strategies to eliminate the accumulation of plastic pollution in the 5 subtropical gyres.

SHARE (7) (9) (1) YOUR PEACH ***

about the petition

Right now, 5 Gyres has introduced legislation in state governments around the country to ban personal products that contain plastic microbeads. The Personal Care Products Council, which represents producers that use these plastic beads, are lobbying for loopholes in the legislation that would allow for so-called biodegradable plastic such as polylactic acid. PLA does not biodegrade in the environment. Plastic microbeads are designed to be washed down the drain and can escape sewage treatment and enter rivers, lakes, and the ocean.

Once there, they can act like a sponge for toxic chemicals such as pesticides, motor oil, and flame retardants. Critters eat plastic, and these chemicals can transfer to their tissue and magnify up the food chain all the way to us. Already, the PCPC has employed dirty tricks to confuse lawmakers with the loophole language. By signing this petition, you are telling the PCPC to replace plastic microbeads with a truly environmentally safe alternative.

To: Personal Care Products Council

For years, producers have been using plastic microbeads in personal care products to exfoliate. These tiny plastic beads are in myriad products, including facial and body washes, toothpaste, and cosmetics. A single product can contain up to 350,000 plastic beads. They are designed to be washed down the drain, and because of their small size, they can escape sewage treatment. These products are designed to go straight into the environment. Once in the aquatic environment, the plastic beads work like a sponge for concentrating toxic chemicals such as pesticides, oil droppings from cars, and flame retardants. Plastic is an efficient medium for concentrating these chemicals.

Roughly the size of fish eggs, these beads can often be mistaken by organisms for food. Once ingested, these dangerous chemicals can transfer to the tissue of organisms and concentrate and magnify up the food chain. All the way to your sushi.

Sincerely,

[Your name here]

sup	porters				
31	Anonymous Chula Vista, CA	35 seconds ago	30	Shawn Wallace Mandan, ND	14 minutes ago
29	Wendy Li Brooklyn, NY	20 minutes ago	28	Mark Van Roon Canada	23 minutes ago
27	Paige Stuart North Olmsted, OH	31 minutes ago	26	Janelle Riess Marina, CA	32 minutes ago
25	Connie Harris Prescott Valley, AZ	34 minutes ago	24	James Boorn Maple Valley, WA	37 minutes ago
23	Maria Garcia Philippines	1 hour ago	22	Anonymous Rockwood, MI	1 hour ago
21	Todd Anthony Oakland, CA	1 hour ago	20	Limberly Mclaughlin Saint Peters, MO	1 hour ago
19	Nathaniel Serrano Barstow, CA	1 hour ago	18	Raymond Baranek Brownsville, TX	1 hour ago

get more

Environment, Health & Beauty, Wildlife

about takepart

follow us











Carticipant pivot takepart