



THE 5 GYRES INSTITUTE
FOR A PLANET FREE OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

MICROBEADS
FACE TO FISH

A TUBE OF FACEWASH CAN CONTAIN OVER 330,000 MICROBEADS

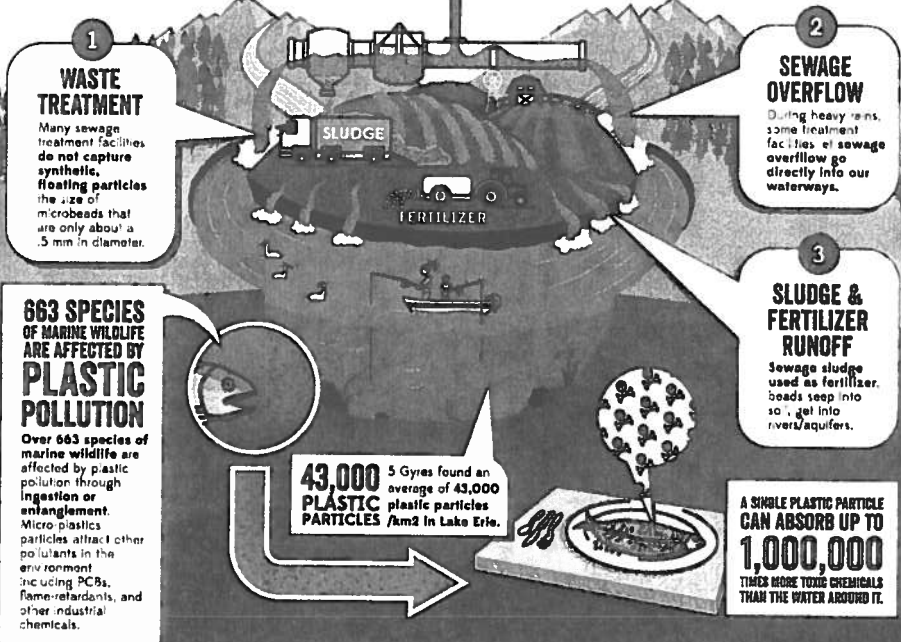
This means billions of plastic microbeads are flowing into our oceans every day.



1,147 PERSONAL CLEANSING PRODUCTS CONTAIN MICROBEADS

1,147 personal cleansing products in the US and around the world contain microplastic particles called "MICROBEADS", employed as exfoliant.

MICROBEADS ARE DESIGNED TO WASH DOWN THE DRAIN



1 WASTE TREATMENT

Many sewage treatment facilities do not capture synthetic, floating particles the size of microbeads that are only about a .5 mm in diameter.

2 SEWAGE OVERFLOW

During heavy rains, some treatment facilities of sewage overflow go directly into our waterways.

3 SLUDGE & FERTILIZER RUNOFF

Sewage sludge used as fertilizer, beads seep into soil, get into rivers/aquifers.

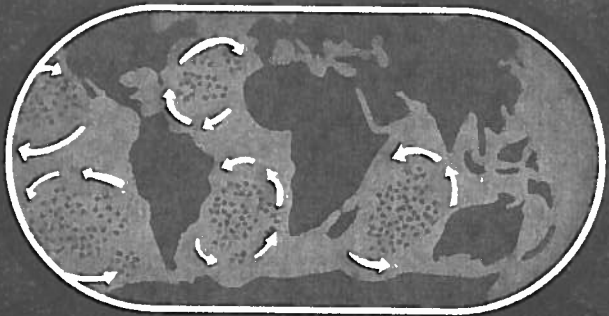
663 SPECIES OF MARINE WILDLIFE ARE AFFECTED BY PLASTIC POLLUTION

Over 663 species of marine wildlife are affected by plastic pollution through ingestion or entanglement. Micro-plastics particles attract other pollutants in the environment including PCBs, flame-retardants, and other industrial chemicals.

43,000 5 Gyres found an average of **43,000** plastic particles /km² in Lake Erie.

A SINGLE PLASTIC PARTICLE CAN ABSORB UP TO 1,000,000 TIMES MORE TOXIC CHEMICALS THAN THE WATER AROUND IT.

Micro-plastic particles are being found in all oceanic gyres, bays, gulfs and seas worldwide.



www.infographic.com.au/2014/08/29/infographic-microbeads-5gyres/

I WANT PLASTIC OUT OF OUR WATERWAYS!

5GYRES.ORG/TAKE-ACTION