



Waste-Free Wednesday: Balloons Don't Belong in Nature

Today's Plastic Free July challenge is to **stop releasing balloons!** Balloons, both mylar and latex, are found frequently on beaches and in the ocean. **They are extremely harmful to marine wildlife, killing countless seabirds, turtles and other organisms every year.** Lighter than air when filled with helium, even an accidental release can have devastating effects miles away. For your next celebration, choose to decorate with flowers, a banner, or festive lights instead!

Photos: The Center for Coastal Studies retrieves balloons found on the beaches and in Cape Cod Bay; balloon strings can be equally dangerous for wildlife.