

MICROBEADS

Service Project For Students

Microbeads are tiny plastic particles used in consumer products such as face and body scrubs. Their purpose is to clean and exfoliate. They are less than 1mm in size and can be spherical or irregular in shape. Every time you use a product with microbeads, it washes down the drain and the microbeads may not be captured in the waste water treatment system, ending up in the sea.

PROBLEMS:

- Microbeads absorb toxins and chemicals from the water which can be transferred to fish tissue if ingested
- Microbeads are known to be ingested by marine life
- Plastic is entering into our food chain; the fish we eat are eating plastic

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

The goal is to raise awareness of this issue and stop the sale and purchase of body care products containing microbeads.

The following is a list of ideas for projects/ majors:

- Research and document the products available in HK
 - Update the info on the Beat the Microbead app and PFS' website
 - Analyse a product to find out how much plastic it contains
 - Offer alternatives to products containing microbeads, give demonstrations on home-made products, create a video, etc.
 - Share the info with others through presentations, demonstrations, flyers, videos, etc. to help raise awareness and make change happen
 - Present your findings to the relevant companies, pushing them for change
 - Share information to raise awareness on social media
 - Get people to sign the campaign asking the government to ban microbeads
- www.supporthk.org/en/petition/ban-plastic-microbeads-personal-care-products-hong-kong

