

The beach litter problem

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When summer comes, many people like going to the beach. That's why it is everyone's responsibility to keep the beaches clean.

We need to be able to keep our beach clean for many reasons. Litter makes our beaches unpleasant and dangerous. Some litter has bacteria and can cause illnesses. When we litter on the beach, we are polluting the environment.

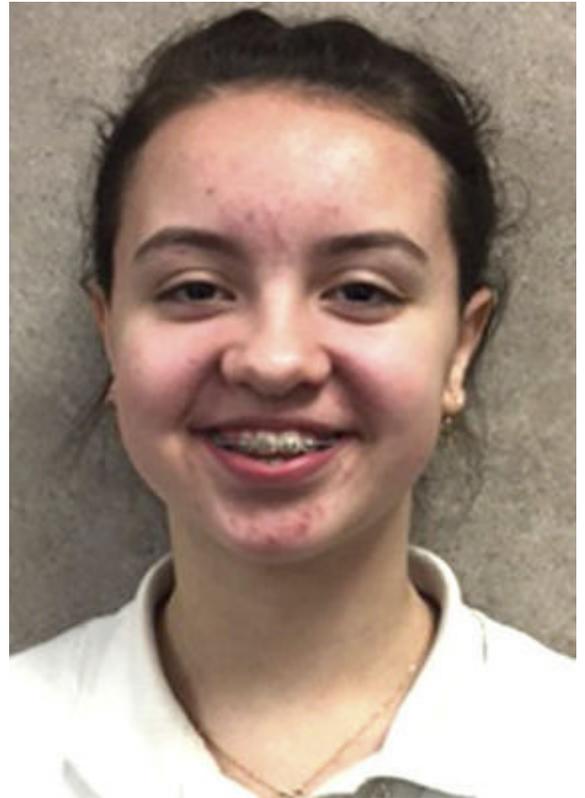
Think of it this way, what if every time you threw something on the ground, a million people around the world also did the same? On average, 58.67 million people visit beaches in the United State each year. That's a lot of litter!

Citizens of Michigan City can take responsibility in keeping our beaches clean. If you're at the beach — or anywhere for that matter — inform your peers about beach litter. Also remember, when you take on the responsibility of telling others about beach litter, you also have to take on the responsibility of not littering yourself. By not littering and telling other people not to litter, we could get many people on board with us to stop beach litter. Then, hopefully, others will get the message and stop littering.

In January, many members of Michigan City's Common Council came to Krueger to discuss their experiences in government. Krueger students presented some environmental problems in the city to the council members and had discussions about solving these problems. They also answered many of our questions. They told us where to go to help organize some beach cleanups and who to ask about putting up some signs at the beach to encourage people to take care of the environment.

During this visit, we discussed some specific solutions about beach litter. One idea was starting a program in which Krueger students go to elementary schools and discuss the problem of beach litter. By doing that, we hope to inform all the kids of ways to prevent littering and encourage them to be responsible at the beach. We hope that when the elementary students get this message they will pass it on to their parents and family members.

The goal I'd like to accomplish is for there to be no more litter on beaches. What I want to see happen next is the citizens of Michigan City devoting some time to improve our environment. By doing this, other cities may also get the message. In the long run, our world will be a better and neater place to live in.



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