

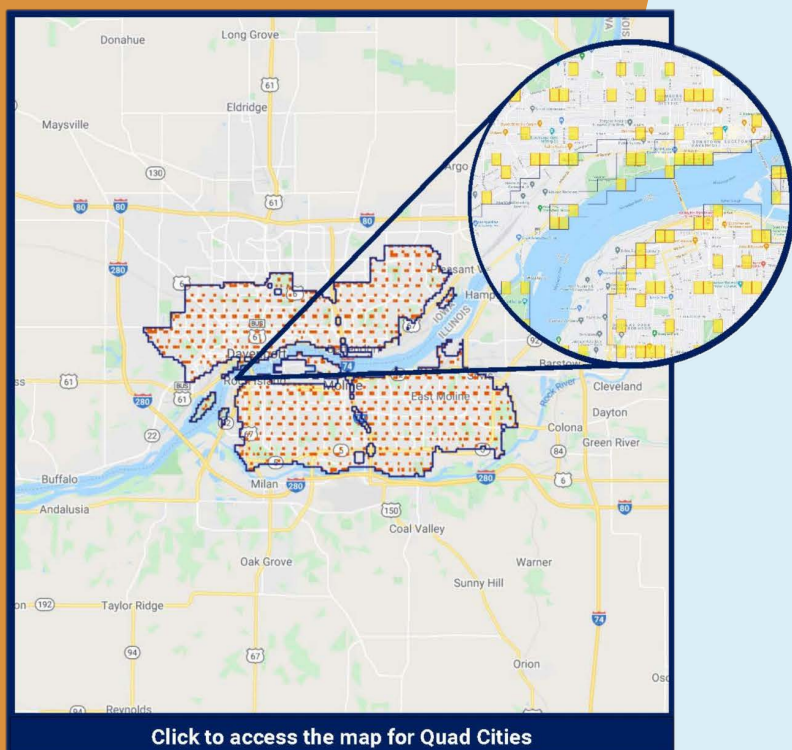
# Do you have what it takes to be a marine debris detective?

Join the Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative in the Quad Cities!

## IMPORTANT DATES:

9/29/2021 4pm	K-12 Educator specific Zoom meeting with National Geographic Society – <a href="#">Register HERE</a>
9/30/2021 6:30pm	Public Debris Tracker App training – <a href="#">Register HERE</a>
10/01/2021	Data collection begins
10/15/2021	Plastic Pollution Initiative “Launch” Press and Public Event (location TBD)
10/31/2021	Final data collected to be added to the report

Find out how to join a cleanup event at [www.xstreamcleanup.org/upcoming-events](http://www.xstreamcleanup.org/upcoming-events)



- 1** Download the [Marine Debris Tracker App](#) on your device.
- 2** Select ‘Mississippi River Plastic Pollution/MRCTI’ from the organization list.
- 3** Use this [link](#) to pick a data collection area on the [map](#). Google Maps will open, showing yellow squares so you can easily select a location.
- 4** Find your data collection site. Find a 3ft (1m) wide pathway where litter accumulates, like a roadside or sidewalk.
- 5** Take a walk, collect data! Follow the 3ft-wide path and record all items within it for at least 30 minutes. Do your best to track the debris you find within the marked square or just adjacent to it. We’ll use this randomly sampled data for scientific analysis.

For detailed instructions, view the [Debris Tracker Citizen Science Field Guide](#).

Up to 80% of marine plastic originates on land, and rivers are a major route for litter to travel to the ocean. You can be part of the solution to combat plastic pollution along the Mississippi River by helping to collect data on marine litter here in the Quad Cities!

Want to find out more about the Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative? [Click here!](#)

