

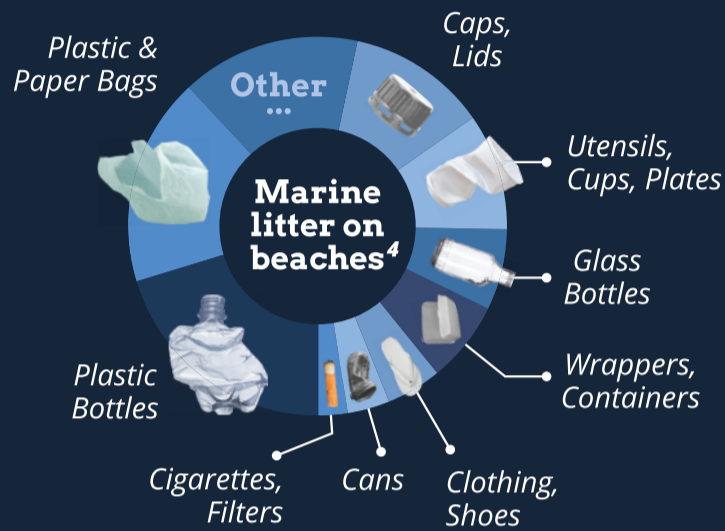
Marine Litter in the Caribbean

424,000 TONNES
of solid waste is generated *daily*
in Latin America & the Caribbean ¹

Every Day.
8,000,000
new solid waste items become
marine litter in our oceans and seas ²

An estimated
5 TRILLION
(5,000,000,000,000)
pieces of plastic currently
float in the worlds' oceans ³

Where does it end up?



15%
is found
on beaches

Without concerted global action,
by 2025 there could be...



1 tonne of plastic
for every
3 tonnes of fish ⁵

15%
floats on the
water's surface



20%

of plastics found within the
marine environment ⁶

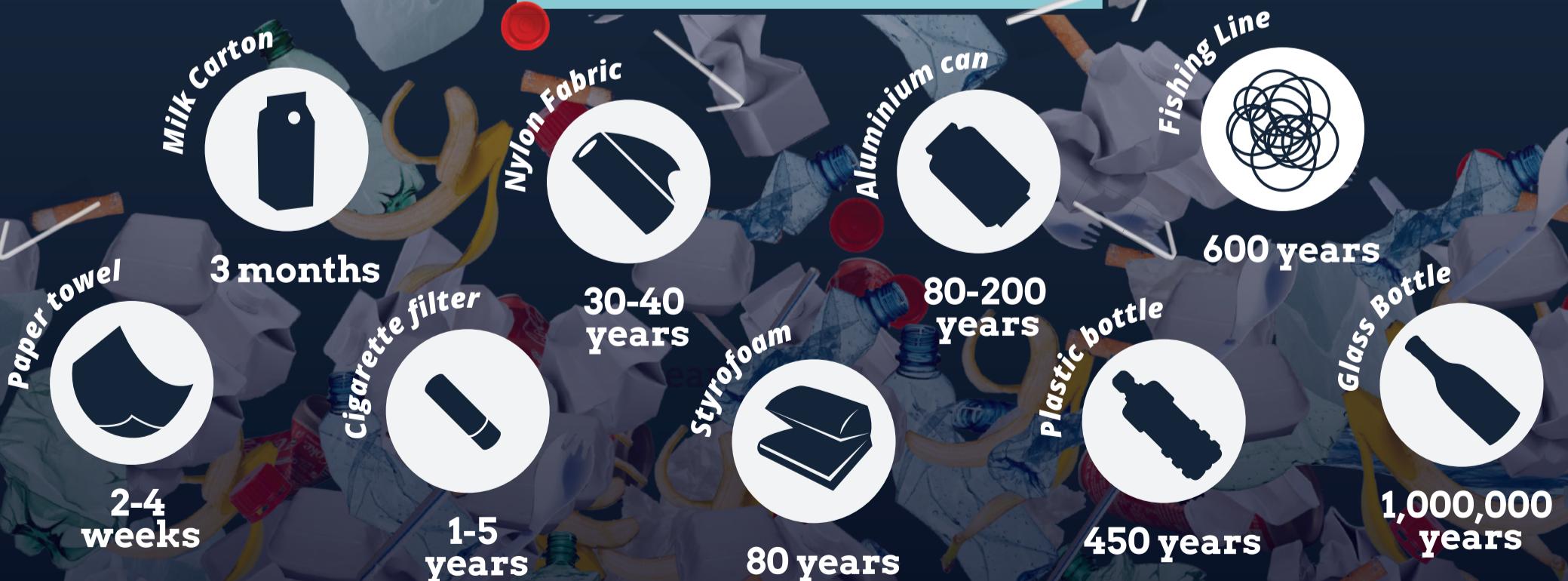
70%
ends up on the
ocean's floor ⁷

Fishing gear
contribute up to
20%
of the marine litter.



This harms and kills marine wildlife
that gets caught or trapped. ⁸

**All items decompose
at a *different* rate...**



¹ http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-97966-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html
² UNEP 2005, *Marine Litter: An Analytical Overview*, Nairobi, Kenya
³ <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51642#.VddYebJvkr>
⁴ Ocean Conservancy, ICC Data Reports
⁵ <https://oceanconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/full-report-stemming-the.pdf>

⁶ http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/marinelitter/publications/docs/plastic_ocean_report.pdf
⁷ http://www.unep.org/jp/ietc/ESTdir/Pub/MSW/RO/contents_Latin_A.asp
⁸ Matthews, T.R. 2009. *Assessing Opinions on Abandoned, Lost, or Discarded Fishing Gear in the Caribbean*. Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute.

Personal: What can I do?

Avoid
the use of
Styrofoam food
containers

**Bring
your own**
re-useable
containers and
coffee mugs

Buy
unpackaged
food

Caribbean: What can we do?

Research

less toxic and persistent
alternatives to plastic

Promote

waste as a resource

Advocate

for regulations, policies
and incentives to reduce
the use of plastics

Invest

in waste
management
infrastructure

Show

the true cost of
plastic disposal on
products

Recycle

to convert waste into
new, useful products

Educate

to promote sustainable
living and reduce waste

**How can
we reduce
marine
litter?**

Ban

smoking
on beaches

**Strengthen
& enforce**

policies and legislation
to stop marine litter

Stop

littering

Clean up
rivers, gullies,
shorelines and
beaches

Use
reusable or
degradable
bags

**Drink
with**
paper, steel
or bamboo
straws

Look for
alternative
packaging, for
example paper