



Next Generation Science Standards:

Lesson: [Healthy Beaches, Healthy Lakes](#)

Prior Knowledge Should Include:

- Things people do can affect the environment but they can make choices to reduce their impacts.

Performance Expectations:

- MS-ESS3-3: Earth and Human Activity: Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing human impacts on the environment.

Disciplinary Core Ideas:

- **ESS3.C Human Impacts on Earth Systems:** Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species. But changes to Earth's environments can have different impacts for different living things. Typically as human populations and per-capita consumption of natural resources increase, so do the negative impacts on Earth unless the activities and technologies involved are engineered otherwise.

Principles:

- **Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions (6)** – Progresses to include constructing explanations and designing solutions supported by multiple sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles and theories.

Crosscutting Concepts:

- **Cause and Effect** – Events have causes, sometimes simple, sometimes multifaceted. A major activity of science is investigating and explaining causal relationships and the mechanisms by which they are mediated. Such mechanisms can then be tested across given context and used to predict and explain events in new contexts.

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