

◆Marine Litter Platform JAPAN

Since 2007, JEAN has held the "Marine Litter Platform JAPAN" in which people from across the country connected to the marine litter problem meet together at one place. In March 2013, the subject of tactics for international cooperation among NGOs, etc., including responses to the driftage caused by the tsunami after the Great East Japan Earthquake, was discussed together with re-examination of the "Law for the Promotion of Marine Litter Disposal", which was enacted in July 2009. <<http://malipjapan.jp/>>



◆Marine Litter Summit Tokyo Meeting

In 2013, the 11th Annual Marine Litter Summit was held in Tokyo (Nov. 2013). In addition to results of on-site investigations (states of Alaska and Washington in the US, and British Columbia in Canada) related to driftage from the tsunami of the Great East Japan Earthquake, future responses were considered and opinions shared regarding more effective measures toward solving the marine litter problem, including marine litter from before the tsunami.



◆Training Course for Monitors -- Toward Development of Educational Material on the Issue of Marine Litter

JEAN participated in the "Marine Litter Research Project" (a collaborative investigation with Ehime University, Kyushu University and the National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management (NILIM) spanning six years, ending in March 2013), which was funded by the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund (ERTDF). In this research project, we developing educational materials to help administrative officers, educators and citizens, who are involved in beach cleanups, to facilitate understanding of the wide-ranging marine litter issue in a simple and comprehensive way with the latest information. In 2013, a great deal of consideration was given to the contents and ways of usage of the material. In March 2013, gaining cooperation from Umimori¹⁾, a training course for monitors was held in Tokyo.

¹⁾A Japanese voluntary neighborhood watch for maritime security, established in 2001. It is operated by the Japan Coast Guard Foundation, supported by the Nippon Foundation and authorized by the Japan Coast Guard.



◆Efforts on the Tsunami-Induced Driftage, etc. in the North Pacific Ocean in 2013

JEAN was commissioned by the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency (ERCA) in November 2012 to undertake the "Project for Japan-US Non-governmental Organizations' Collaboration, Investigation and Transmission of Information to Japan Regarding Ocean Driftage Originated from the Tsunami associated with the Great East Japan Earthquake". In this project, we carried out investigations of the condition of tsunami driftage in the states of Oregon and Hawaii in the US, and in March 2013, we hosted forums in Tokyo and Sendai. Subsequently, in June 2013, with support from The Sasagawa Peace Foundation and JEAN's funds, we implemented the tsunami driftage investigation in Alaska State in the US.

Furthermore, we contracted a project from the Ministry of the Environment, Office of Marine Environment, "Overseas Research on Trends Regarding the Ocean Driftage Originated from the Tsunami associated the Great East Japan Earthquake for Fiscal 2013". We visited British Columbia Province in Canada and Washington State in the US in late September 2013 to conduct interviews with the concerned persons of the local areas and conduct status assessments.



◆Completion of Photographic Panels "Pass on Beautiful and Healthy Oceans to Our Children -- Problems of the Tsunami-induced Driftage and Marine Litter"

JEAN played a central role in a series of survey activities implemented from 2012 related to the 2011 earthquake and tsunami-induced driftage. This set of 12 photo-panels (A1 size) show the survey activities, and address the present marine litter problem that has become apparent through the tsunami-induced driftage. Please contact the JEAN office for rental information, etc.

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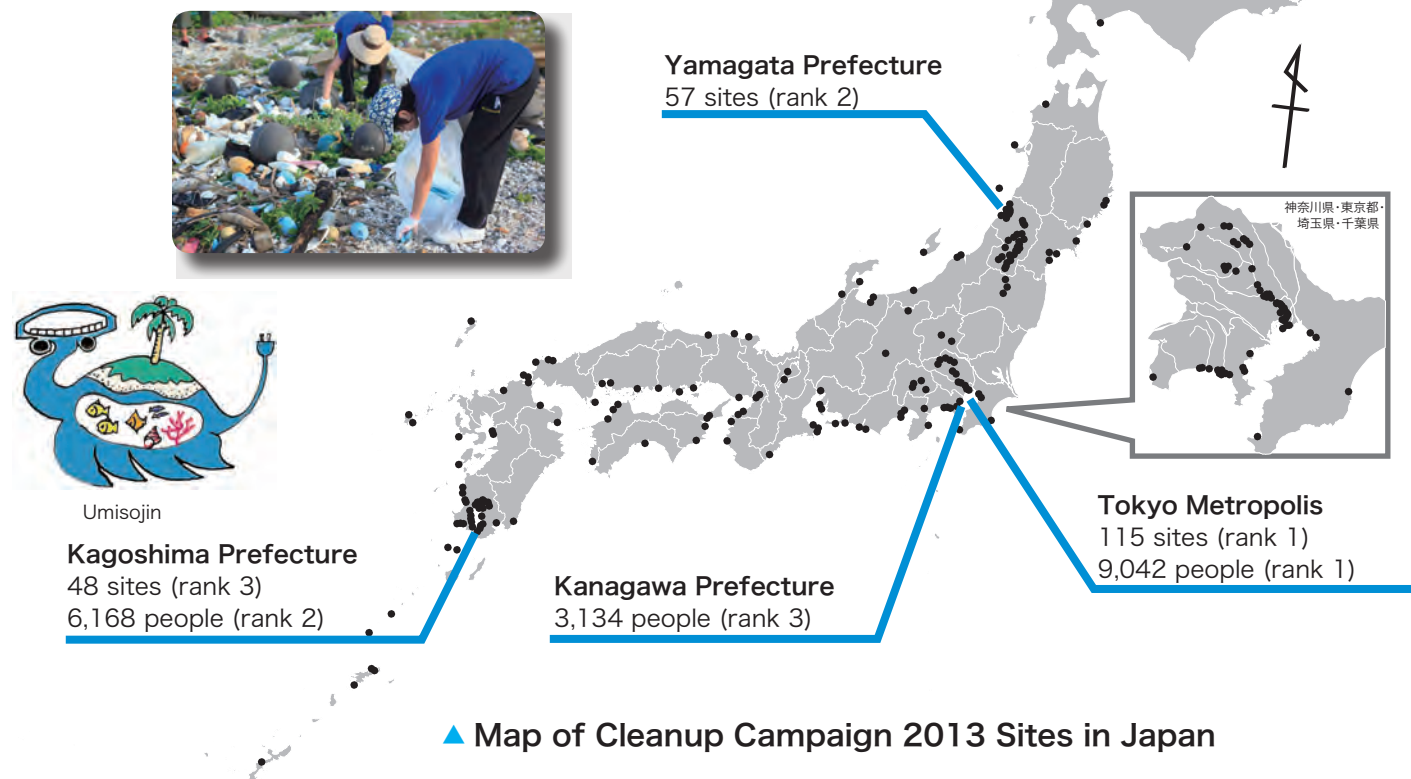
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International Coastal Cleanup 2013

Cleanup Campaign Overall Report

In the 2013 Cleanup Campaign, a total of 34,758 people participated from Hokkaido in the north to Okinawa in the south, and 87 tons of litter was collected from 192 km of coasts, riverbanks, lakeshores, and underwater. We express our gratitude to all of the participants.



What is the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC)?

The problem of marine litter cannot be solved by only picking up litter. No matter how much we pick up litter, new litter will continue to be generated and will be washed ashore. The International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) (Implemented September to October) is an effort proposed by the Ocean Conservancy (US) in which the content of litter is investigated using the same method throughout the world. It is an activity in which each participant becomes aware of the problems associated with litter while searching for ways to improve the situation. The objective is to have each participant understand that instead of continuing to pick up litter forever, we ourselves must reduce litter or else the marine litter problem will not be solved.