

REEF-SAFE SUNSCREEN INFORMATION PAGE

Why Reef-Safe Sunscreen?

Some states now ban the sale of sunscreens containing two common chemicals:

- Oxybenzone (which is also called benzophenone-3 and BP-3).
- Octinoxate

These two chemicals have been determined to be potentially harmful to aquatic life.

Avoid these ingredients as well as they may pose a threat to marine life. More research is being conducted.

- Octocrylene (Might affect brain and liver development in zebrafish)
- Homosalate
- Octisalate
- Parabens
- Nano-Particles
- 4-methylbenzylidene camphor
- PABA
- Triclosan
- Petrolatum
- Any form of microplastic exfoliating beads

Ingredients in sunscreen damage delicate coral reef systems. It is estimated that 6,000 tons of sunscreen wash into the coral reefs around the globe each year.

Sunscreen chemicals are known to: *

1. Cause coral bleaching in reefs.
2. Increase distress to marine organisms.
3. Prevent coral from absorbing the nutrients they need to stay healthy.
4. Cause DNA damage.



REEF-SAFE SUNSCREEN INFORMATION PAGE (CON'T)

5. Increase abnormalities in coral growth and skeletons.
6. Leave the coral reefs vulnerable to infection.
7. Effect other marine organisms like fish, sea urchins and shrimp.

Just because a sunscreen claims to be reef-safe doesn't mean it is.

It is not something that is strictly regulated by the government.

So, What Can You Do?

1. The best way to protect yourself and the environment is to:
 - Cover most of your body with UPF (Ultraviolet Protection Factor) clothing. Your body that is not covered will still need sunscreen – however you will require less than if you are covering your entire body
 - A t-shirt will also work
 - Rash guards
 - Hats
 - Try to find sunscreens with zinc oxide and titanium dioxide
2. Some Options to try:
 - Thinksport SPF50+ Sunscreen
 - Hello Bello Mineral Sunscreen SPF50
 - Blue Lizard Sensitive SPF30 Sunscreen
 - Kokua Sun Care Hawaiian SPF50 Natural Zinc Sunscreen
 - Mama Kuleana Waterproof SPF30 Reef-safe Sunscreen
 - Little Hands Hawaii SPF35+ All Natural and Organic Sunscreen
 - Manda Organic SPF50 Sun Paste
 - Raw Love SPF35 All-Natural Mineral Sunscreen
 - Babo Botanicals SPF30 Clear Zinc Lotion
 - All Good SPF30 Sport Sunscreen Lotion
 - Suntegrity Natural Mineral Sunscreen
 - Badger SPF30 Unscented Sunscreen Cream
 - Raw Elements SPF30 Certified Natural Sunscreen
 - Stream2Sea SPF20 & 30 Mineral Sunblock
 - Loving Naturals Clear Body SPF30+ All-Natural Sunscreen



REEF-SAFE SUNSCREEN INFORMATION PAGE (CON'T)

- Banana Boat Simply Protect SPF50+ Sunscreen (spray, not lotion)
- Olita Mineral Sunscreen Lotion SPF50
- Baby Bum SPF50
- Neutrogena SheerZinc Dry-Touch Sunscreen Broad Spectrum SPF30
- Aveeno Positively Mineral Sensitive Skin Sunscreen SPF50
- MDSolarSciences Mineral Moisture Defense SPF50 Sunscreen
- LaRoche-Posay Anthelios Ultra-Light Mineral Sunscreen SPF50
- Coola Mineral Sport Sunscreen Stick SPF50/Coola Organic Mineral Body Sunscreen Lotion SPF30 Fragrance Free
- Sun Bum Mineral SPF50 Sunscreen Lotion
- Supergoop! Play100% Mineral Lotion SPF50 Sunscreen
- Australian Gold Botanical Sunscreen SPF50

Reef-safe products are a little more difficult to rub in. They are gentler on your skin. They need to be reapplied every two hours. Look for the PROTECT LAND & SEA CERTIFICATION ON PRODUCTS

Save our Reefs. Be Sunscreen Smart.

<https://www.mauireefs.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/MNMRC-Be-Sunscreen-Smart.pdf>

*In a 2016 study by Downs and colleagues from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

