

BALLOONS ARE PRETTY...

BAD

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Why are balloons so bad?

Released balloons all eventually fall back down to earth as litter, where they end up on land or washed down the storm drain, into our waterways and out to the ocean, where they pose a threat to wildlife.

Deflated balloons are often mistaken for food by animals and marine life, ultimately proving fatal in most cases. Inquisitive creatures, such as birds and dolphins, are attracted by bright colours or shiny objects and can mistakenly ingest balloon litter.

In addition to the danger caused by consumption of balloon litter, animals are also at risk of becoming tangled in the strings and ribbons used on the balloons. Wings, flippers and fins can all easily become entangled, leading to serious harm or loss of life.

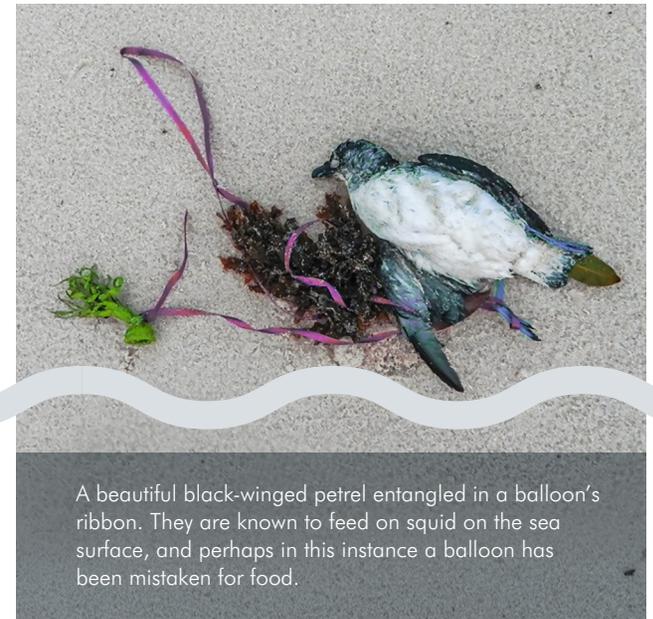
Balloon companies advocate that latex balloons are biodegradable, but tests have shown that even after being buried for four years, they can still be identified, and in that time, there are plenty of opportunities for wildlife to be harmed.

Fun alternatives for parties

There are many alternatives that can be used to make celebrations feel more festive. These can be made at home, creating even more entertainment for the family in the lead up to a special event.



Lasting ideas for a memorial



Our approach to balloons

The City of Onkaparinga is moving away from using balloons at council-hosted events. We are also encouraging those participating in events with council or on council land, to consider using alternatives to balloons.

More information

For more information about the council's stance on balloons, please contact our Environmental Sustainability team on 8384 0083 or email sustainable@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

For more inspiration visit www.balloonsblow.org



SUSTAINABLE
ONKAPARINGA