

OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS®

HANDBOOK

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
CONTRIBUTING TO OCEAN HEALTH



OCEAN
FRIENDLY
BUSINESS®



**NICOYA
PENINSULA
WATERKEEPER**

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YOUR BUSINESS' SUCCESS
AND NATURE'S WELL-BEING

GO HAND IN HAND

Did you know that more than half of the world's GDP depends on biodiversity and on the services provided by nature? We appreciate how you, as a business, recognize your environmental impact and fervently commit to adapting your practices to reduce it.

This handbook will guide your steps and provide you with tools to take your commitment to the next level and contribute to ocean health.



80%

OF MARINE LITTER IS
**SINGLE-USE
PLASTIC**

Let's work together so that your business stops adding to this percentage.



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THESE ARE YOUR

COMMITMENTS

AS AN OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS®

1 MAP YOUR IMPACT

The first step to turn your business into an Ocean Friendly Business® is to participate in three trainings with the Nicoya Peninsula Waterkeeper team. The first one is aimed at business owners. Together we will map your impact by assessing the positive and negative impact of your value chain so you become aware of the consequences of human activity on the ocean's health. The second and third trainings address the staff and focus on solid waste management and wastewater management. Through these trainings, you and all your team will have a greater understanding of how to run your business reducing its negative impact on the environment.



> MAP YOUR IMPACT

> SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

> WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT



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2 DEFINE SOLUTIONS

Based on the evaluation of your business's current practices, we will guide you through the necessary steps to take in order to reduce your negative environmental impact. Together, we will draw up a working plan with short and long-term priorities to facilitate the implementation of the solutions.

These are the practices you commit to implementing in your business to contribute to the ocean's health and become an Ocean Friendly Business®:

- Manage solid waste appropriately: recycle plastic, aluminium, tetrapack, and glass. Dispose your organic waste properly (composting it or giving it to an organic waste collector). Dispose of your trash in a suitable waste container.
- Manage wastewater appropriately: you need an adequate wastewater treatment system for the grey and black water your business generates. Septic sludge must be handled by authorized companies.
- Correctly dispose of your grease trap waste and used kitchen oil by giving them to an authorized waste manager.
- Using alternative cleaning products is mandatory.
- Single-use plastics should be avoided: you cannot sell or use plastic or bioplastic straws, cups, cutlery, take away containers, bags, bottles, bathroom accessories.
- Comply with Costa Rica's current legislation concerning the relevant matter.

We will go through the details of all the criteria above mentioned in the trainings.

3 TAKE ACTION

Once your business's environmental impact is clear and that the solutions to implement are understood, we will provide you with the necessary tools to take action.

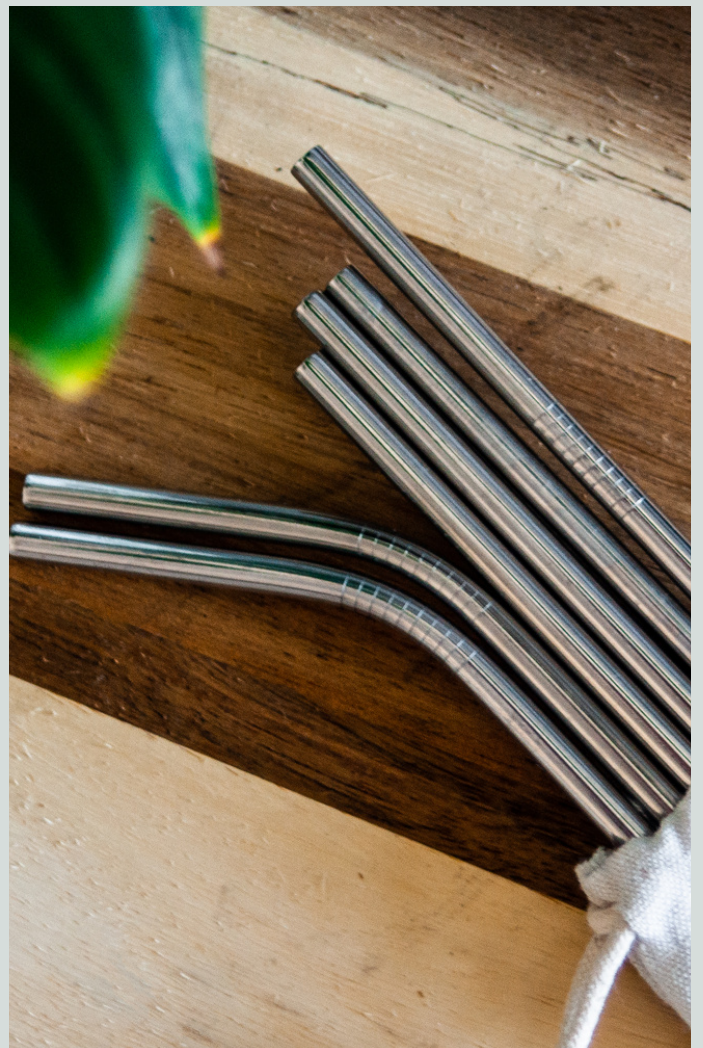
- > OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS® GUIDE
- > DISCOUNTS WITH OUTSTANDING PROVIDERS
- > CONSTANT SUPPORT FROM THE NP WATERKEEPER TEAM

The Ocean Friendly Business® Guide includes information about different providers in the area that will help you make the necessary changes in your business.

You will have access to a list of outstanding suppliers that will offer discounts to certified Ocean Friendly Businesses® while ensuring high quality products and service.

Once you have implemented the solutions, a final evaluation will be done to ensure criteria compliance. Your business will then be certified as an Ocean Friendly Business®.

Nicoya Peninsula Waterkeeper's team will support you at every stage of your transformation process.

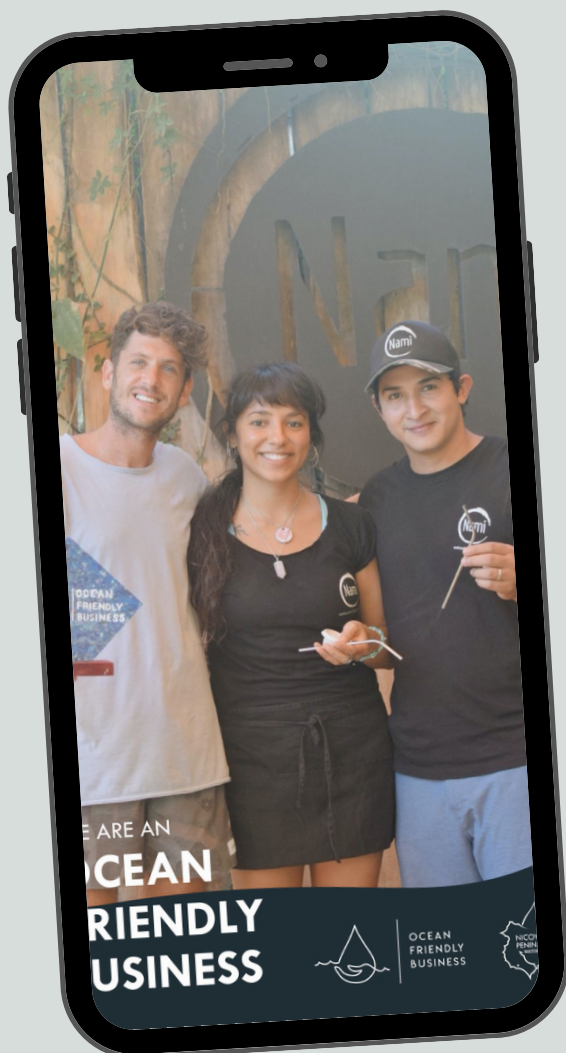


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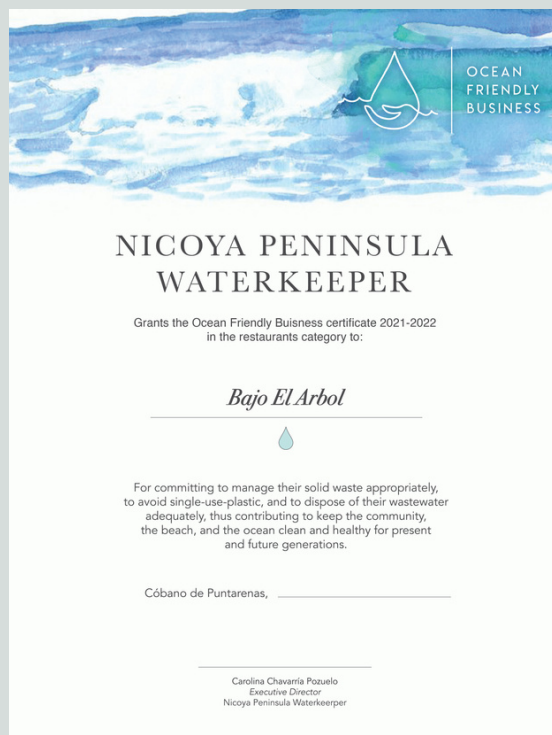
COMMUNICATE AND SHARE

Once you have been certified as an Ocean Friendly Business®, it is very important that you communicate and share your achievements. We will provide you with visibility material and social media tools for you to blast out the good news!

Your clients will surely appreciate knowing that they are supporting a business that cares for the ocean and the environment they came to visit. Communicating your success will also be an example for other local businesses which might motivate them to join the change so that, all together, we can promote a sustainable culture in our community.



- > STICKERS Y FLYERS
- > SOCIAL MEDIA DESIGNS
- > AWARD, CERTIFICATE AND RELEVANT INFORMATION



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OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS®

IS FREE -OF-CHARGE
PROJECT THAT AIMS AT
REDUCING WATER
CONTAMINATION IN THE
SOUTHERN NICOYA
PENINSULA.

**The key requirement to be part of this
local sustainable businesses network is
YOUR COMMITMENT!**

**By dedicating nature a space in your
business, it will become a substantial
piece in your value chain. Ocean Friendly
Business® seeks to create a collective
conscience that understands that our
businesses, families, social well-being,
and our lives depend on nature!**

**Thank you for wanting to be a part of the
change!**

THE NICOYA PENINSULA
WATERKEEPER TEAM



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