

Did you know

- A healthy coral reef is vital in protecting Kosrae from the effects of waves, storms, typhoons and tsunamis.
- Coral reefs need clean, clear seawater to survive.
- Coral reefs that are damaged by people take many years to repair naturally.
- Activities by people such as illegal fishing, pollution from pig pens and septic tanks, and soil washed down rivers, all have a detrimental impact on the coral reef.



How does it affect you?

By carrying out activities that can harm the coral reef you will:

- Cause increased erosion (land loss) for many years to come.
- Increase the risk of damage from storms to you and your neighbors property.
- Affect fish and marine life which are an essential food and source of income on Kosrae.



Tourists come to Kosrae to dive and see some of the best undamaged coral reefs left in the world. Tourism is one of the major sources of money to an island like Kosrae. Without the coral reef and without tourism, Kosrae would be a much poorer place.

What can you do?

You can help by not carrying out any activities that will harm the reef. These include:

- HELP – by not using illegal fishing methods such as Chlorox, poison leaf and other destructive activities.
- HELP – by not polluting or dumping waste in coastal, river or mangrove waters.
- HELP – by not causing increases in river flows by changing mangrove and river outlets or changing swamp drainage channels.
- HELP – by ensuring large amounts of sediment is not washed down rivers by not clearing land on steep slopes, or clearing swamp or mangrove areas close to river channels.
- HELP – by sharing this information and factsheet with friends and neighbors in your Municipality.



Where to get more information

To get more information on coral reefs, contact the Development Review Commission on 370 2076 or come into the office in Tofol.

There are also a number of other factsheets on coastal issues. Contact the DRC for more information.