

Environment group pushes reusable face masks

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Published Jul 31, 2020 5:39:44 PM



Environment group Ecowaste Coalition on Friday warned against mounting waste from disposable face masks as it pushed for the use of reusable protective gear. (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, July 31) — Environment group Ecowaste Coalition on Friday warned against mounting waste from disposable face masks as it pushed for the use of reusable protective gear.

The advocacy group said it found face masks, bottles of hand sanitizer and rubbing alcohol on Baseco beach in Manila on Friday.

"This is very concerning as these throw-away masks, which are supposed to protect us and others from the dreaded virus, pose a real threat to aquatic life," said Aileen Lucero, the group's national coordinator.

She warned that some animals may accidentally choke or become entangled in the plastic materials.

"By opting for reusable or washable face masks, we avoid generating non-biodegradable and non-recyclable trash that only adds to the worsening plastic pollution crisis," Lucero said.

<https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/7/31/face-masks-waste.html>