



Fish Contamination Education Collaborative

The Fish Contamination Education Collaborative works to protect the public from the health risks of consuming contaminated fish caught near the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund Site.

www.pvsfish.org



NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2026

The Collaborative met in April 2026 to discuss program updates and progress aimed at reducing public health risks from eating contaminated fish.

- The outreach educators visit nine piers every week to talk with anglers about local fish contamination.
- Do-Not-Consume signs were installed at ten locations, including 3 new coastal locations.
- The PVSFish.org website has been updated. It is now mobile-friendly and can be translated into multiple languages.
- Outreach materials were distributed to 39 participating bait shops.

The Collaborative developed a data-driven angler outreach schedule that will begin in August 2026.

ANGLER OUTREACH

Pier Angler Outreach

We have talked to 6,079 anglers since August 2025!



Overall, the busiest days of the week at piers are Fridays and Saturdays.

REDUCE YOUR RISK

PCBs and DDT are harmful chemicals that remain in the environment for a long time. PCBs were used in industrial products, and DDT was a pesticide produced at a former chemical plant in Torrance, California. Both were banned in the 1970s due to health and environmental risks. PCBs and DDT in the environment have resulted in contaminated fish along the Los Angeles coastal areas. These fish look, smell, and taste normal, but eating them can cause serious health problems, including cancer and damage to the liver, immune system, hormones, nerves, and reproductive system.

TO REDUCE YOUR RISK:

FOLLOW LOCAL FISH ADVISORIES

Avoid eating fish with unsafe amounts of PCBs and DDT.

EAT ONLY THE SKINLESS FILLET

PCBs and DDT build up in the fatty parts of the fish.

BAKE, BROIL, STEAM, OR GRILL FISH

These cooking methods let PCBs and DDT drip away.

RECENTLY ATTENDED COMMUNITY EVENTS



Cabrillo Earth Day Festival Reopening
April 18, 2026



Natural History Museum County of Los Angeles' Earth Day Celebration
April 19, 2026



CCHC's Annual Walkathon
April 25, 2026



Aquarium of the Pacific's Teen Climate Council Earth Day Festival
April 25-26, 2026

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

Since August 2025, the Collaborative's outreach educators have attended 10 local events. At these events, it's estimated that:

- **4,650 people** attended
- **1,030 people** interacted with outreach educators
- **236 tip cards** were handed out
- **659 other materials** were distributed

PROGRAM UPDATES

New Outreach Schedule

The Collaborative will implement a new angler outreach schedule in August 2026. The new schedule is based on the busiest times at the most effective piers. As a result, Rainbow Harbor Pier will no longer have dedicated in-person outreach beginning in August 2026.

Monthly Sign Maintenance

Look for new signs at piers from Santa Monica to Seal Beach!

Fish ID Sticker

The outreach team will begin distributing informational stickers to anglers at the piers. It is designed to fit onto tackle boxes and coolers. It includes a ruler so that anglers can measure their catch.

Bait Shop Updates

39 shops are currently participating in the Bait Shop Outreach Program. In February 2026, the Collaborative's outreach team performed bait shop inspections. The Collaborative plans to streamline bait shop outreach and redirect these outreach resources to more effective awareness sources.



GET INVOLVED

- Check out the meeting slides and minutes from the April Fish Contamination Education Collaborative Meeting, available at www.pvsfish.org/resources/partner-documents.
- Learn more at a local community event! Check out our upcoming events at www.pvsfish.org
- Visit a local pier to see our new signs!
- Sign up for our electronic newsletter (sent twice a year)!



www.pvsfish.org/resources/newsletters



The FCEC members hatch California Grunions at the April 2026 meeting held at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

