



Infected Brain Coral



HELP FIGHT CORAL DISEASE

Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) is killing corals in the U.S.V.I.

WHAT WE KNOW

- SCTLD – a lethal coral disease affecting roughly half of the coral species in the US Virgin Islands – has been found on St. Thomas.
- Cause of disease is unknown, but we know it's transmittable through water.
- SCTLD attacks stony corals – like brain and pillar corals – first, and moves quickly, leaving behind large areas of bright white skeleton.
- SCTLD doesn't pose a threat to human health, but damages corals that provide food, tourism value, and physical protection from waves during storms.

WHAT WE CAN DO



AVOID SPREADING

- Avoid swimming and boating in known affected areas. Map here → dpr.vi.gov/SCTLD
- Rinse snorkel and dive gear with disinfectant immediately after diving in affected areas.



BE ON LOOK OUT

- Look for large areas of bright white skeleton on corals – especially on brain and pillar corals.
- Protect all coral! - Don't anchor on coral, know what's below before you drop your anchor. Stand only in sand. Don't touch, kick or stand on coral. Every living piece of coral is valuable.



REPORT SIGHTINGS & TELL OTHERS

- Report sightings to reefconnect.org/bleachwatch or call DPNR—Coastal Zone Management Division at 340-774-3320. Please provide photos and information on location.
- Let other people know about SCTLD and what to do. We need all “hands on deck” to fight this coral disease!



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT DPR.VI.GOV/SCTLD OR EMAIL CZM@DPR.VI.GOV WITH 'SCTLD' IN THE SUBJECT LINE
Submit detailed reports at www.reefconnect.org/bleachwatch/



Healthy Brain Coral



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Coral Disease Public Meeting | ALL WELCOME!

Wednesday, February 20th 6:30-8:30PM

Yacht Haven Grande, Havana Nines

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