

# Plastics at SEA

## The Science of Ocean “Garbage Patches”

An Evening with Dr. Kara Lavender Law

Principal Investigator  
Sea Education Association, Woods Hole, MA

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

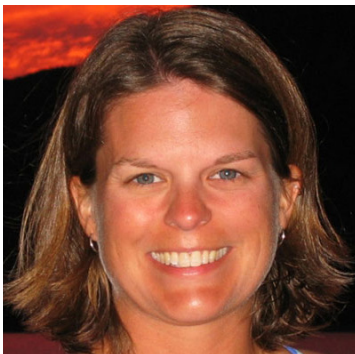
6:00 p.m. Reception, 7:00 p.m. Lecture

Franklin Theater, Waynflete School

360 Spring Street, Portland, Maine



Microplastic Sample



Dr. Kara Lavender Law is a research professor at Sea Education Association with a PhD in physical oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and a BS in mathematics from Duke University.

**Ocean pollution by plastic and other man-made debris** is a pressing environmental problem that has captured the attention of marine conservationists, anti-plastic activists, the media and the general public. Although the problem was first described in the 1970s, scientific attention to the topic has increased only recently and misconceptions about the problem are common. At Sea Education Association (SEA; [www.sea.edu](http://www.sea.edu)), students and scientists began collecting data on floating plastic debris in the 1980s. Dr. Lavender Law will review the state of scientific research on marine debris in the world's oceans and share her in-depth look at research carried out for more than 25 years by undergraduate students and faculty scientists on sailing oceanographic research vessels at SEA.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for interactive exhibits and informational tables from ocean focused organizations. Light refreshments will be served.

Admission to the evening is FREE.

For more information contact  
Carol Steingart, GOMMEA President at  
[carolsteingart@gmail.com](mailto:carolsteingart@gmail.com) or 207-831-4436

