



ALERTING ALL DIVERS!

An unprecedented disease is threatening corals in the Caribbean

It attacks stony corals
and scientists are calling it
'Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease'

The coral disease is water-borne and may spread
through contact. The situation is urgent but corals
are resilient if given the chance and the right
conditions for their growth and survival –

let's help protect the ocean.

Some disease is normal on
reefs, affecting 2-3% of corals



Bare skeleton
with no tissue



Sloughing
away of tissue

DEAD
STONY CORAL

SICK
STONY CORAL

HEALTHY
STONY CORAL
(SUSCEPTIBLE)

SOFT & BRANCHING CORALS
ARE NOT SUSCEPTIBLE

Other coral diseases, coral bleaching
and fish bites can look like
stony coral tissue loss disease.

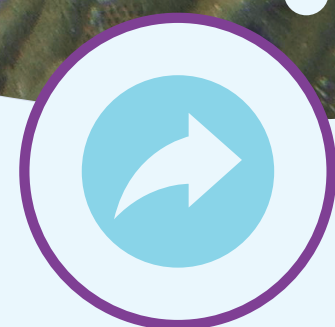
What makes it different are **types of
corals affected** and the **pattern of spread.**



Take
photos



Note the dive site,
coral location and date



Share the
information via
[www.agrra.org/
coral-disease-outbreak](http://www.agrra.org/coral-disease-outbreak)

Photo by: K. Neely

Poster Design: Deviate Design, Bonaire



A partnership between:



MORE INFORMATION

Scientists are working to identify causes
and to develop treatments. Your local coral
reef managers are in touch with these efforts
and benefiting from the latest knowledge
about the disease. For more information,
see <http://www.agrra.org/>

AGRRRA Atlantic and Gulf
Rapid Reef Assessment

www.agrra.org/coral-disease-outbreak



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Healthy
Stony Coral



Sick
Stony Coral

Photo left: K. Marks, right: A. Bruckner

Help stop the spread



**Never
touch corals!**

Have good buoyancy



**Rent gear
locally**

so you don't
spread the disease



**Dive on
healthy reefs**

before diving
infected reefs

Pathogens can survive on dive and snorkel gear.
Dive and snorkel gear can transfer disease
among reefs and internationally.

Decontaminate your gear



Where is the disease occurring?

Poster Design: Deviate Design, Bonaire



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