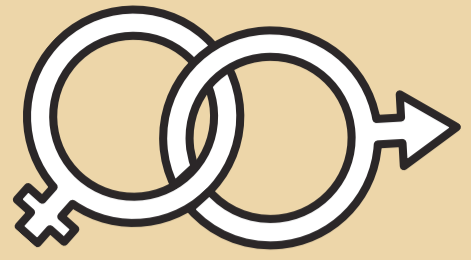
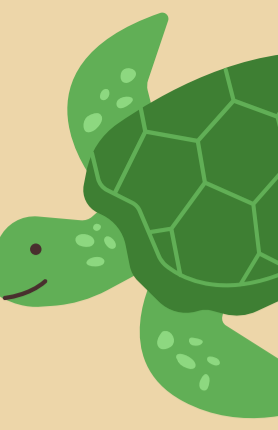


# MICRO-PLASTICS AND TURTLE SURVIVAL

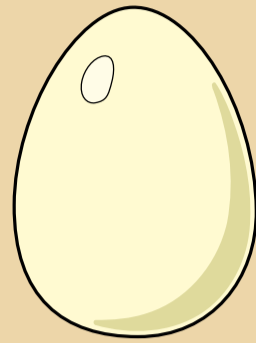


Sex determination of turtles depends on the temperature of its surroundings. Micro-plastics conduct lots of heat, creating higher sand temperatures. This promotes more female offspring than males, threatening the species' survival.

## WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?



Egg shells prevent beach dune erosion



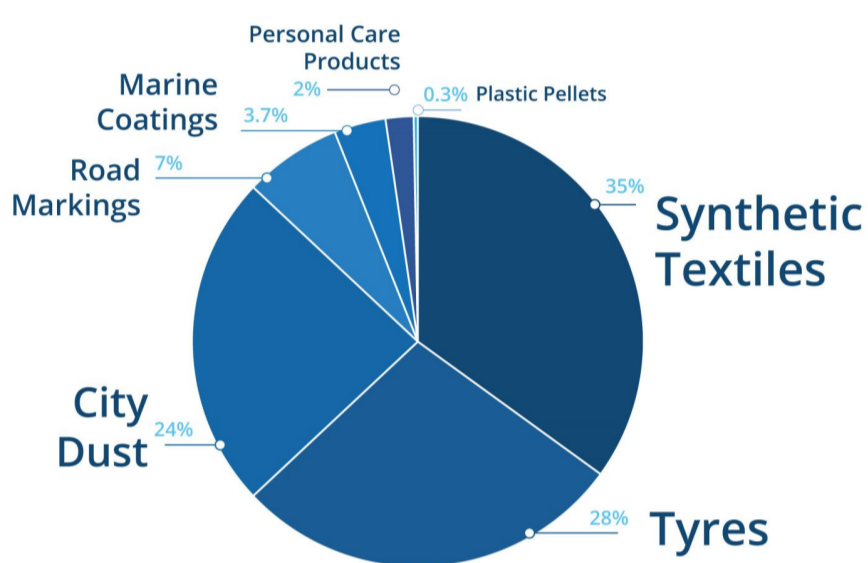
Keeps aquatic vegetation healthy, especially seagrass



Crucial in maintaining a healthy ecosystem

## HOW ARE MICROPLASTICS FORMED?

Global Releases of Primary Microplastics to the World Oceans



### Major contributors:

- Broken down larger plastic
- Personal care products
- Clothing fibers
- Tires

**FACT:** Nearly 52% of all sea turtles have ingested microplastics, harming the survival of the species.

## COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS:

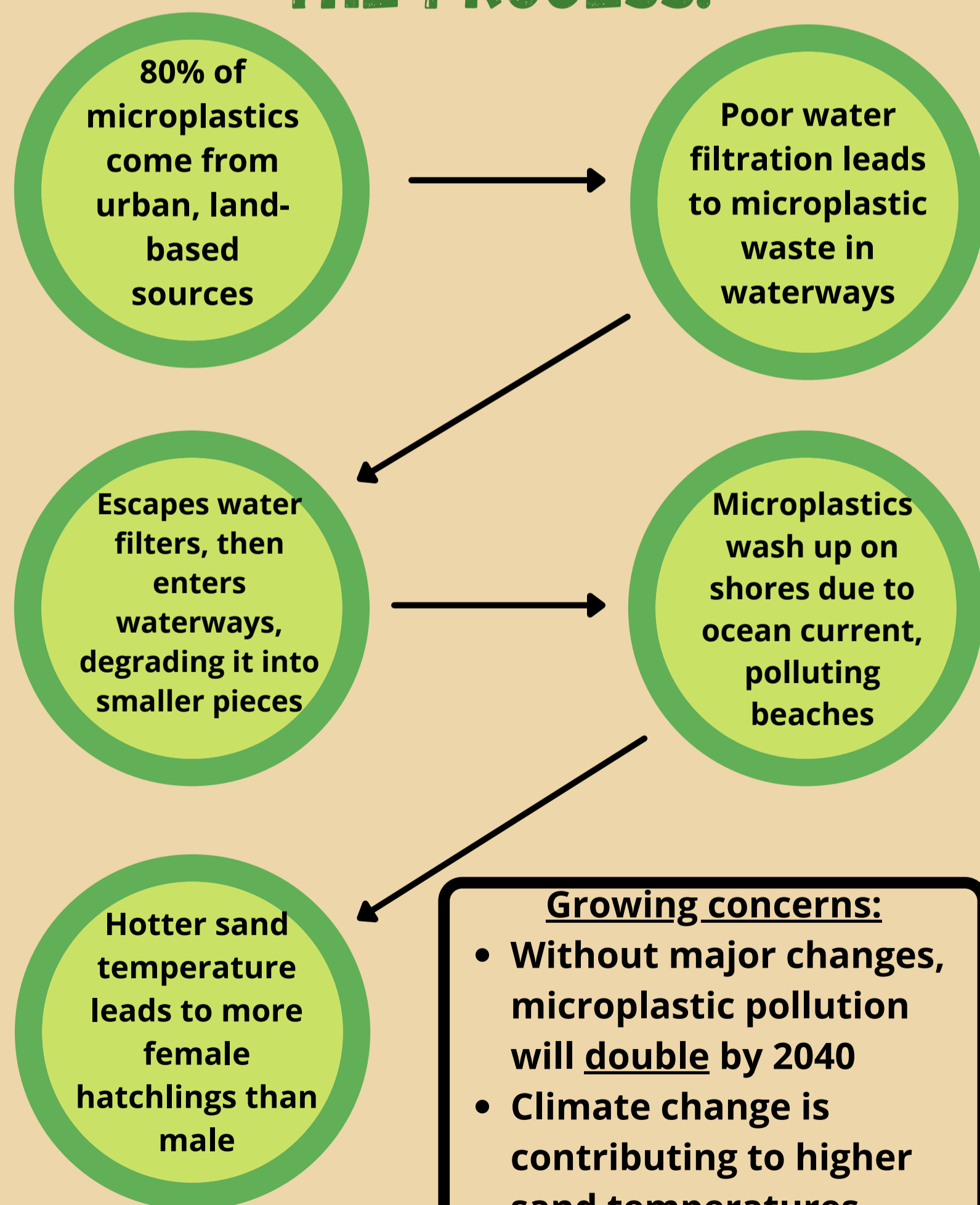


Shade tents are the most effective method to combat hotter sand temperatures that can impact the birth ratios of turtles. Not incredibly labor intensive or expensive, and the local communities can easily get involved.



Microplastic Sifting: By removing microplastics from sand, it lowers overall heat density of the surroundings, which promotes equal birth ratios.



## THE PROCESS:



### Growing concerns:

- Without major changes, microplastic pollution will double by 2040
- Climate change is contributing to higher sand temperatures
- Impact of plastic pollution on oceans is at least \$13B per year

## QUICK AND EASY SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS:

- REDUCE single use plastic! 
- LIMIT dryer use. 
- AVOID products containing plastic microbeads. 