



Executive Summary

In 2018, the state of Hawaii passed legislation outlawing the sale or use of sunscreens or other personal care products that contain the ingredients “Oxybenzone” and/or “Octinoxate”. **The sunscreen bill does not take effect until January 1, 2021.**

Choosing a sunscreen that is non-toxic to both humans and the environment can be challenging for consumers and business owners. For example, the **“reef safe” label is a marketing term and is not regulated by governing bodies.** Sunscreens containing the “reef safe” label may therefore contain chemicals that are harmful to both you and the ocean. Similarly, “oxybenzone-free” sunscreens may be void of oxybenzone, while still containing other harmful ingredients.

In considering the best available science, Hawaii Ecotourism Association advocates that the safest form of sun protection to humans and the environment is to cover up using hats, rash guards, long-sleeves, and other physical sun barriers. Sunscreen should be used as a last resort.

If sunscreen is required, Hawaii Ecotourism Association suggests the following:

Ingredients to CHOOSE

- Active Ingredients:
 - Non-nano zinc oxide (make sure it says “non-nano”)
 - Titanium dioxide (make sure it’s combined with zinc oxide)
- Inactive Ingredients:
 - Organic
 - Plant-based
 - All natural

Ingredients to AVOID

- Active Ingredients:
 - Oxybenzone
 - Octinoxate
 - Avobenzone/Avobenzene
 - Homosalate
 - Other chemical