Hidden Hazards

Trash hurts! When we look at a pond or beach, we do not always see the trash. Sometimes it is hidden in the sand or grass. Sometimes it is hidden in the water. Hidden in the puzzle are some items that can be hazards. See if you can find them.

**Answer Box:**
- glass
- plastic
- balloons
- cups
- lead
- line
- holders
- tin
- hooks

Now, use the answer box words to finish these sentences about trash.
Remember: Dispose of trash properly.

1. Skunks and other animals can get their heads stuck in plastic ___ ___ and ___ ___ cans.
2. Water birds can be poisoned by ___ ___ shot that they eat along with marsh grasses and other food.
3. Sea turtles sometimes think ___ ___ ___ bags are jellyfish and eat them. They cannot digest the bags.
4. Birds and other animals can get caught in discarded fishing ___ __. Without hands to free themselves, they cannot get away.
5. Animals and people alike can cut themselves badly on broken ___ ___ __.
6. Plastic ring ___ ___ ___ from six-packs of soft drinks or beer can get caught around water birds’ necks so they cannot eat.
7. Discarded ___ ___ ___ used for fishing can hurt animals and people.
8. Releasing helium ___ ___ ___ ___ can hurt animals like sea lions. They may eat them when the balloons come down out of the sky.

Helium balloons are often released into the air at fairs and other outdoor events. When the balloons come down out of the sky, they become litter. They can harm animals who eat them by accident—especially whales and sea turtles. On the back of this paper, write a radio message telling people not to release helium balloons at their events.