

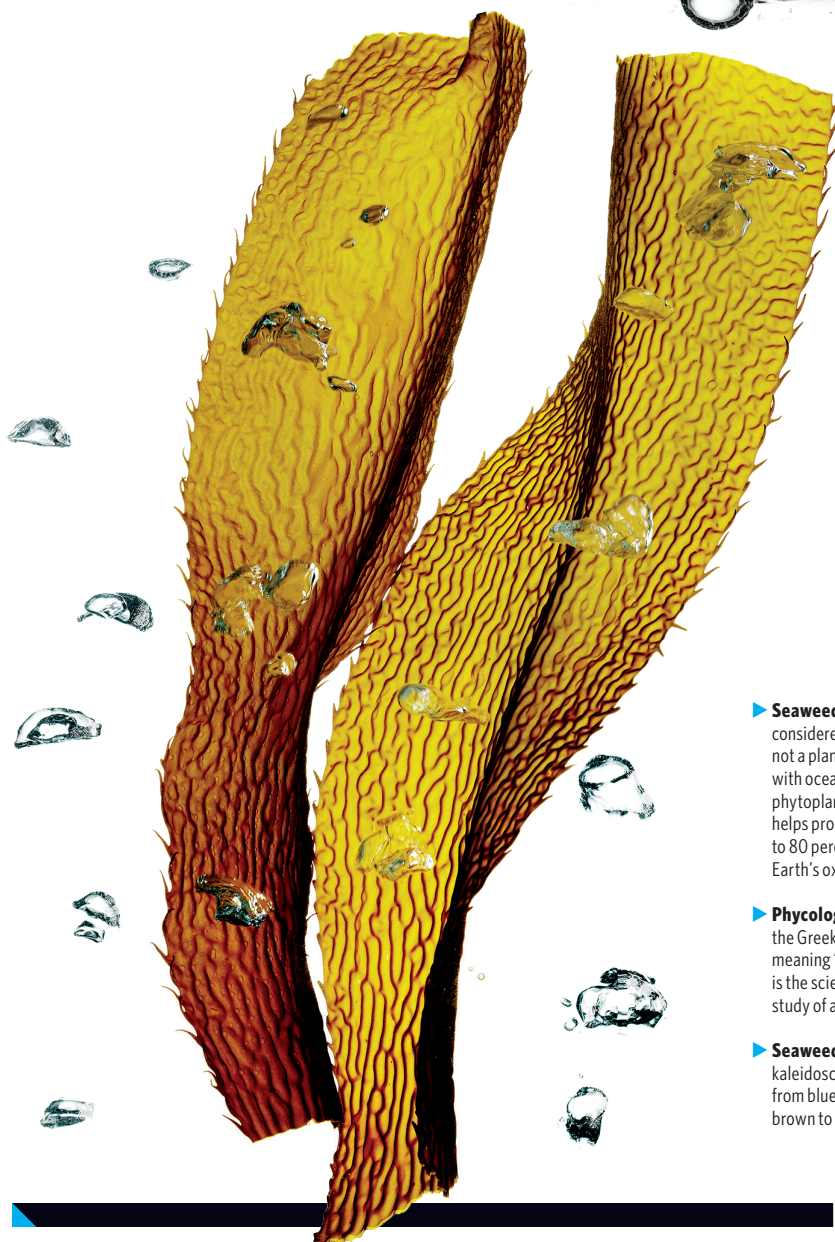


DIANE BERNARD

This skin-care guru makes a splash with seaweed.

WHEN YOUR NICKNAME is “the seaweed lady,” you’ve obviously got algae in your blood. Diane Bernard, the force behind Seaflora Skincare, a line of wild organic seaweed products, grew up in a family that’s gathered this sea-given bounty for generations. Today, the British Columbia resident has developed creams and serums that capture her passion, from seaweed body gels to anti-aging treatments. Says Bernard, “My goal was to take a wild resource and create a high-end product. Seaweed is the ideal raw ingredient for our marine-crafted products.” Bernard harvests the seaweed by hand, as Canadian law dictates, from the end of May until the middle of August. “We harvest and process our own seaweed right here on-site,” she notes. Bernard encourages visitors to don gum boots and join her on the forage. “We love taking folks out at low tide and watching their faces as they encounter the magic and mystery of seaweed, the colors and the beauty,” she says. “It’s amazing just how gorgeous a seaweed bed can be.”

—JASON OLIVER NIXON



► **Seaweed** is considered an algae, not a plant. Along with oceanic phytoplankton, it helps produce 70 to 80 percent of Earth’s oxygen.

► **Phycology**, from the Greek *phykos*, meaning “seaweed,” is the scientific study of algae.

► **Seaweed** comes in kaleidoscopic hues, from blue-green to brown to rich red.

GIFT OF THE SEA

Celebrate the life aquatic in Minneapolis, China and Jamaica.



1 For the drink Old Man and the Sea, Minneapolis’ **Marvel Bar** lets nori (seaweed) rest in whisky overnight before straining the spirit.



2 For a unique mash-up of Asian and American tastes, head to **Dunkin’ Donuts** shops in China for dried pork and seaweed doughnuts.



3 In Jamaica, escape to the Sea-weed Luxury Villa at **Jakes Hotel**, an ecofriendly resort with knockout views and an infinity pool.