

## PLASTIC BAGS...



**DON'T GO AWAY:** Up to 1,000 years to break down--- smaller pieces become more embedded in wildlife.

**FLOAT EVERYWHERE:** Because they are lightweight, bags blow out of trash cans, dumpsters, and trucks.

**WASTE ENERGY:** Manufacturing plastic bags uses up petroleum and natural gas: 14 plastic bags could drive a car 1 mile!



Sources: Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Worldwatch Institute, [loveyouearth.org](http://loveyouearth.org), [onegreenplanet.org](http://onegreenplanet.org), [banthebottle.net](http://banthebottle.net), [earth911.org](http://earth911.org), International Union for the Conservation of Nature

**BAG THE BAG!**

## SINGLE USE PLASTICS ARE...

**TOXIC:** Soak up concentrations of toxins such as PCB's which go up the marine animal food chain to our seafood.



**KILLING WILDLIFE:** Scientists estimate that ingestion of plastics kills 1 million marine birds and 100,000 marine animals each year. At least 267 different species are known to have suffered from entanglement in or ingestion of plastic marine debris.



**POLLUTING THE OCEAN:** 95% of plastic in the ocean comes from the land: river litter that flows to the sea.

**SAY "NO"  
TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS!**

## PLASTIC BOTTLES...



**ONE AND DONE:** While a plastic water bottle can be turned into plastic lumber

for outdoor decking, playground equipment, carpeting, clothing, and car parts, once that item is no longer used, it adds to our trash pile.

**WASTE ENERGY:** Making bottles to meet America's demand for bottled water uses more than 17 million barrels of oil annually.

**TAP WATER IN DISGUISE:** 24% of bottled water sold in the United States is either Pepsi's Aquafina or Coke's Dasani. Both are purified municipal water. Fairfax water meets or exceeds EPA standards and has fluoride to protect teeth.

**WASTE MONEY:** At more than a dollar a bottle, bottled water does not make economic sense.

**BOOT THE BOTTLE!**

USE REUSABLES:

**Skip the bag** altogether, unless you have multiple items

**Store reusable bags in the car** so they are handy, and put them on the passenger seat when you are headed to the store.

**Leave a reusable water bottle and coffee mug in your car** to fill and refill on-the-go, to take to meetings, and when you travel

**Say no to plastic straws**

**Purchase bulk items using containers or reusable bags**

**Bring a reusable container to the restaurant** to take home leftovers

For more information on plastic pollution and alternatives, go to [www.cleanfairfax.org](http://www.cleanfairfax.org)  
Programs—Reducing Plastic Pollution



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TRASH ACTION WORK FORCE

**TAKE ACTION  
AGAINST  
SINGLE-USE  
PLASTICS**

One clean world

