

PLASTIC POLLUTION

By: Emma Henry



WHAT IS PLASTIC POLLUTION AND WHY IS IT AN ISSUE?

Plastic Pollution happens when plastic gathers in an area and starts to negatively affect the environment, wildlife, as well as humans around both land and bodies of water. This ultimately leads to safety hazards for plants and animals and is a big leading problem in climate change.



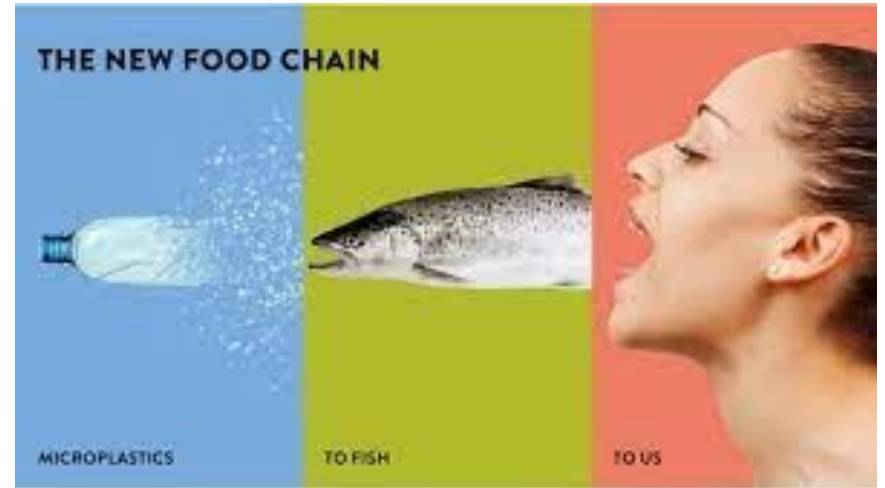
PLASTIC POLLUTION QUICK FACTS

1. 63 billion gallons of oil are used every year to supply just the U.S. with plastic water bottles (More than 90% of these are used only once).
2. U.S alone throws away 38 billion plastic water bottles every year.
3. 2 million tons of plastic goes into U.S landfills.
4. Every 15 minutes around 19 million lbs of plastic are produced globally.



HOW DOES PLASTIC POLLUTION EFFECT HUMANS AND ANIMALS?

1. Plastic is killing more than 1.1 million seabirds and animals every year.
2. The average person eats 700,000 microplastics each year.
3. 73% of beach litter is plastic.
4. Chemicals from plastics get in our bloodstream and tissue (exposure can lead to cancer, birth defects, impaired immunity).



WHAT IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF PLASTIC POLLUTION?

With more than 80% of marine litter coming from land the main cause of plastic pollution is human **negligence**. This includes the lack of knowledge on how recycling, reducing, and reusing plastics to reduce the amount of plastic pollution in the environment.



WAYS YOU CAN REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF PLASTIC POLLUTION?

1. **Reuse**
 - Reuse plastic containers
 - Use a reusable water bottle rather than individual plastic ones
2. **Reduce**
 - Say NO to single use plastic
 - Use bamboo, stainless steel, paper straws
3. **Recycle**
 - Only put objects that are allowed in recycling bins in recycling





WHAT CAN GO INTO RECYCLING ?

CARDBOARD/PAPER



Corrugated Cardboard
(Wavy center layer)



Boxboard
(Dry-food boxes, egg cartons, & rolls)



Junk Mail, Periodicals, & Office Paper
(Paper bags, envelopes, & catalogs)

PLASTIC



Plastic Bottles, Jugs, Tubs, & Lids
(Empty kitchen, laundry, & bath containers)

METAL



Aluminum & Steel Cans
(Foil & empty food & beverage cans)

GLASS



Glass Bottles & Jars
(Empty food & beverage bottles & jars)

WHAT CANNOT GO IN YOUR RECYCLING?



PLASTIC BAGS
DON'T BELONG



BAGGED RECYCLABLES
DON'T BELONG



CLOTHING/ TEXTILES
DON'T BELONG



FOOD WASTE/ LIQUIDS
DON'T BELONG



TANGLERS
DON'T BELONG



SCRAP METAL ITEMS
DON'T BELONG



BATTERIES OF ANY KIND
DON'T BELONG



ELECTRONIC WASTE ITEMS
DON'T BELONG

CANNOT GO IN RECYCLING



NO Medical Waste
(Rubber gloves, sharps, pills, etc.)



NO Plastic Wrap, Films, or Tarps
(Food bags or wrappers, plastic wrap, shrink wrap, or tarps)



NO Hazardous Materials or Explosives
(Find safe and secure disposal near you)



NO Wood, Waste, or Tires
(Wood, diapers, human/pet or yard waste, or rubber)



NO Toys, Hangers, or Shoes
(Donate gently used items)



NO Disposable Items
(Styrofoam™, napkins, paper towels, tissues, plastic utensils, dirty recycling, register tape, condiment packets, straws, stirrers, & coffee pods)



NO Coated Paper Items
(Items with a plastic lining such as waxed coffee or soda cups, & waxed paper plates)



NO Ceramics or Baking Glass
(Donate gently used items)

HELP SAVE THE EARTH WITH THE PLEDGE TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION

