

What's the big deal about single-use plastics?

1. They are bad for the environment

Single-use plastics are an environmentally damaging, and easily preventable, source of litter, greenhouse gas emissions and pollution. They can become airborne even when properly disposed, ending up littering our urban landscape, and our river valley. They also pose a serious threat to riparian and marine environments and wildlife. 1 million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals - whales, seals and turtles - die from ingestion of, or entanglement in, plastics every year.

2. They are bad for our health

Even when they are no longer obvious to the naked eye, plastic degrades into tiny micro-plastic particles that absorb toxins and contaminate our food chain as well as our water, air and soil. Microplastics have been found in salt, honey, bottled and tap water, shellfish and beer. You are essentially eating and drinking those plastic bags!

3. They cost you money

The costs of these one-time use products are passed on in the form of higher prices and increased taxes required for the clean-up and disposal of these items.

4. They waste valuable resources

Single-use plastics are made from a limited supply of non-renewable petroleum sources. You could drive a mile on 14 plastic bags! It is also estimated that plastics will account for 20% of total oil consumption by 2050.

5. Single-use plastics laws work

Bans and surcharges have both been proven to be an incredibly effective mechanism to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics (e.g. a 60-90% reduction for plastic bags).

Let's Make a Change!

Single-use plastics are a sad legacy for future generations. Let's be responsible citizens of our planet and stop polluting our common home. Join the worldwide movement in over 100 other jurisdictions worldwide that have enacted single-use plastics laws.