

FAST FACTS ON DISPOSABLE BOTTLES

- 2,480,000 tons of plastic bottles and jars were thrown away in one year (2008).
- Tap water is cleaner, cheaper and healthier than store-bought water.
- 60 billion single-use drink containers were purchased in 2006, and 3 out of 4 were thrown out directly after use.
- Plastic bottles are among the most prevalent source of pollution found on our beaches.
- Plastic trash absorbs pre-existing organic pollutants like BPA and PCBs.

THE PROBLEM

- Tap water is often subject to more stringent regulation and testing than bottled water. It costs a fraction of the cost from the tap. It is cleaner, cheaper, and thus healthier. (Natural Resources Defense Council)
- Every square mile of the ocean has 46,000 pieces of floating plastic in it. (UN, 2006)
- Ten percent of the plastic produced every year worldwide winds up in the ocean. 70% of which finds its way to the ocean floor, where it will likely never degrade. (UN, 2006)



THE IMPACT

- Along with plastic bags, plastic bottles are among the most prevalent sources of pollution found on our beaches. (Ocean Conservancy)
- The extremely slow decomposition rate of plastic bottles leaves them to drift on the ocean for untold years.
- When plastics break down, they don't biodegrade, they photodegrade. This means the materials break down to smaller fragments. These readily absorb toxins which contaminate soil, waterways, and animals upon digestion.



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