



## **HOW WASTEFUL IS BOTTLED WATER?**

Water scarcity is quickly becoming the issue of our time. Climate change is real, and as many as one out of eight people in our world do not have access to safe drinking water.

The environmental impact of the mass consumption of bottled water has led some US and Canadian local governments to consider banning its sale.

Here are some facts:

1. Bottles used to package water take over 1000 years to biodegrade and if incinerated they produce toxic fumes. It is estimated that over 80% of all single use water bottles in the US become litter.
2. Recycling is only feasible in limited circumstances because only PET bottles can be recycled. All others are discarded. Only 1 out of 5 bottles is sent to the recycling bin.
3. US landfills are overflowing with 2,000,000 tons of discarded water bottles alone.
4. It takes over 1.5 million barrels of oil to meet the demand in the US for water bottle manufacturing. This does not include the fossil fuel needed to transport the final product to market.
5. It is estimated that 3 liters of water is needed to package 1 liter of bottled water in the US.
6. It is estimated that 1500 plastic bottles end up as waste in landfills or thrown in the ocean every SECOND!!

Plastic bottles maybe BPA-free, but there are chemicals in the bottles, such as Phthalates, that can seep into your drink, and be harmful to your health. PLEASE carry your own reusable water bottle and use your own filtration system if you are concerned about your tap water. You can help save the planet, cash, and your health.

Thank you for all you are currently doing to lower your carbon footprint.  
Your Environmental Action Committee