

Plastic Bottle Facts

Americans buy more bottled water than any other nation in the world, adding 29 billion water bottles a year to the problem. Manufacturing plastic bottles, (which are most often used only ONCE) uses a lot of fossil fuels and pollutes the environment. Manufacturers use 17 million barrels of crude oil a year. That's enough oil to keep a million cars going for twelve months.



Imagine a water bottle filled a quarter of the way up with oil. That's about how much oil was needed to produce the bottle.

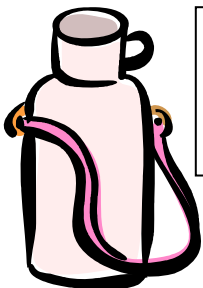
So why don't more people drink water straight from the kitchen faucet? Some people drink bottled water because they think it is better for them than water out of the tap, but that's not true. In the United States, local governments make sure water from the faucet is safe. There is also growing concern that chemicals in the bottles themselves may leach into the water.

Unfortunately, for every six water bottles we use, only one makes it to the recycling bin. The rest are sent to landfills, or even worse, end up as trash on the land and in rivers, lakes, and the ocean. Plastic bottles take many hundreds of years to disintegrate

Recycling one plastic bottle can save enough energy to power a 60-watt light bulb for six hours.

More Facts – found at <http://earth911.com/plastic/plastic-bottle-recycling-facts/>

- In 2006, Americans drank about 167 bottles of water each but only recycled an average of 23 percent. That leaves 38 billion water bottles in landfills.
- Bottled water costs between \$1 and \$4 per gallon, and 90 percent of the cost is in the bottle, lid and label.
- According to the Beverage Marketing Corp, the average American consumed 1.6 gallons of bottled water in 1976. In 2006 that number jumped to 28.3 gallons.
- It takes over 1.5 million barrels of oil to manufacture a year's supply of bottled water. That's enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars.
- Eight out of 10 plastic water bottles become landfill waste.
- In 2007 we spent \$16 billion on bottled water. That's more than we spent on iPods or movie tickets.
- Plastic bottles take 700 years before they *begin* to decompose in a landfill.
- If everyone in NYC gave up water bottles for one week, they would save 24 million bottles from being landfilled. One month on the same plan would save 112 million bottles, and one year would save 1.328 billion bottles from going into the landfill.



Bottle your OWN water in your OWN container!

Water from the tap is regulated and most often healthier than bottled water.

