

WHY?

STOP USING PLASTIC BAGS, STRAWS AND STYROFOAM

- Minnesotans throw out 500 tons of plastic bags and packaging every day. ¹
- U.S. citizens throw away 25 trillion Styrofoam cups every year that end up in the landfills and waterways. ²
- On average, Americans use 1.6 straws per person a day. Most of them end up in the waterways. ³
- More than 40% of plastic produced is used once and then tossed. ⁴
- The MPCA states that in Minnesota fewer than 10% of plastic bags are recycled. ⁵
- A recent study found that people ingest an average of 5 grams of plastic a week, the equivalent of a credit card. ⁶
- Single use plastic bags cost a grocery store \$60,000 per year. ⁷
- Plastic bags get caught in sorting machines in recycling facilities. ⁸
- Places that put a fee on plastic bags have seen a 70 to 80% reduction in use. ⁹

8.8 million tons of plastic enter the ocean every year and kill 1 million animals. Albatross and turtles are in danger of extinction.



FOOTNOTES

¹ <https://www.pctate.mn.us/news/what%E2%80%99s-new-ecoexperience15-minnesota-state-fair>

² <http://nomorestyrofoam.org/>

³ <https://www.nps.gov/articles/straw-free.htm>

⁴ <https://plasticoceans.org/the-facts/>

⁵ <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/featured/time-plastic-diet>

⁶ <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/11/health/microplastics-ingestion-wwf-study-scn-intl/index.html>

⁷ <http://applications.nam.lighting.philips.com/smartconnect-blog/how-reusable-grocery-bags-help-retailers-with-cost-reduction/>

⁸ <https://www.mydisposal.com/plastic-bags-and-recycling-setting-the-record-straight>

⁹ <https://www.reusethisbag.com/articles/plastic-bag-bans-worldwide/>