

Disposable Water Bottle Blues

The sheer numbers are staggering

- ◆ In 2006, Americans consumed an average of 167 bottles of water – a total of 50 billion bottles in one year.
- ◆ Only 23% of these bottles were recycled! **100 million bottles PER DAY** wound up in U.S. landfills – 38 billion in total per year!

The problems with plastic

- ◆ It takes 700 years for plastic to decompose. Much of plastic waste winds up in our oceans, negatively impacting ecosystems and wildlife.
- ◆ Plastic is made out of oil, a finite, increasingly more costly natural resource. The production and distribution of water bottles uses **17 million barrels of oil** annually – enough to fuel **1 million cars!**

The environmental impact of ONE disposable bottle

- ◆ Picture a disposable water bottle ¼ full. From oil field to consumer, that is how much petroleum it takes to make and ship a single bottle of water to you.
- ◆ It takes **THREE** bottles of water to make and distribute **ONE** disposable bottle of water.
- ◆ 120 grams of greenhouse gases are generated by the production of a single disposable plastic bottle of water.

Your tap water

- ◆ Tap water is strictly regulated by the EPA using guidelines which are much more stringent than the FDA which regulates bottled water. Reporting tests results are mandatory under EPA rules unlike FDA guidelines.
- ◆ Home filters are available from a variety of sources. Even with an in-home filtration system, the cost of tap water is considerably less than bottled water. Information on recommended home water filters is available at www.Back2Tap.com.
- ◆ People prefer tap water over bottled water 4 out of 5 times in blind taste tests.
- ◆ Tap water can be 1000 times cheaper than bottled water (2¢ vs. \$1 - \$20 per gallon).
- ◆ Over 25% of bottled water is actually filtered tap water.

Saving the Planet, One Bottle at a Time.