



Supporting Activities that Value the Environment

The Problem with Plastic Bags — Just Say NO!

- Plastic bags are a serious threat to our environment and natural resources—not only do they spoil our beaches and fields—but they can take up to 1,000 years to break down.
- Plastic bags suffocate, disable and kill thousands of marine animals and sea birds worldwide each year; when an animal dies and decays, the plastic bag is free again to repeat the deadly cycle.
- Plastic bags are made from petroleum—non-renewable, unsustainable and highly polluting.

Some Solutions—YOU Can Help!

- Bring your own re-usable bag; keep them handy in your car, home or office. Some options are:
 - ◇ Cloth / canvas / mesh bags
 - ◇ Your purse / briefcase / backpack
 - ◇ Beach bags
 - ◇ Baskets
 - ◇ Plastic bags that you used from a previous purchase
- If you have to use plastic bags, put more items in fewer bags!

One reusable bag lasts an average of 4 years and replaces 1200-1600 single use bags!



Did you know ?

- Plastic bags do not biodegrade but photodegrade, breaking down into tiny toxic bits that contaminate the soil and waterways where they enter the food chain, poisoning animals and ultimately us.
- An average family accumulates 60 plastic bags in only 4 trips to the grocery store. This adds up to a lot more plastic bags than you can use at home for trash disposal.
- 1 million plastic bags are used every minute world-wide.
- Production of 100 plastic bags results in approximately 3 kilos of greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to global warming.

Among the many countries around the world taking action against plastic bags, Ireland reduced its plastic bag usage by 95%—down from 1.2 billion per day—by imposing taxes on plastic bag usage. The taxes are put into a “Green” fund to further benefit the environment.



Think globally ☒ Act LOCALLY