



WASTE NOT

Coshocton County Recycling & Litter Prevention Newsletter
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Summer 2021

Reduce Your Plastic Usage!

Plastic, it's everywhere! It's not hard to figure out why: it's lightweight, durable and cheap. An extremely versatile material, plastic is found in everything from appliances to zippers. The same pros to plastic are also what makes plastic a con in the environment. It will not degrade in the environment, it is easily spread around both land and water because it is so lightweight and animals can mistake it for food. Since the 1950s, over eight billion metric tons of plastic have been produced and, of that, only about nine percent has been recycled.

There's no way to completely eliminate plastic from our lives, but we can all do better at reducing our plastic usage. Consider adopting at least one of these tips to reduce your waste.

- Say no to plastic cutlery. American use 100 million plastic utensils everyday! Keep silverware at work or in your lunch box and decline the plastic. While you're at it, skip the straw, too.
- Ditch the bottled water. Use a reusable bottle and perhaps invest in a water filter, if you don't care for the taste of tap water.
- Remember to use your reusable grocery bags. It's easy to forget them, but start practicing and it will soon become a habit.
- Buy in bulk. Instead of prepackaged, single serving snacks buy a bigger or bulk portion and divide them into serving sizes using reusable containers instead of plastic baggies. It's less expensive and a great way to reduce waste.
- Join Plastic Free July® for more tips and information: www.plasticfreejuly.org

When you master these steps, keep going! Take your own to-go containers or ask your favorite restaurants to use biodegradable options instead of plastic or Styrofoam. Stop using plastic ware at your events or family get-togethers and start championing the less-plastic cause. We can all make a difference.

Did you know... Plastic never goes away.

It breaks down into micro-plastics that have been found in the soil, water, fish, animals and even human organs!

"Odds and Ends" What Do I Do With...

Appliances: Our local scrap yards- Coshocton Recycling, Inc. and Lity Scrap accept most old appliances.

Batteries: Disposable batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9V, etc.) may be dropped off in the "Big Green Box" located at Coshocton and West Lafayette Post Offices and Libraries.

Florescent Light Bulbs: Tube and "curly" type CFL bulbs may be recycled at the Coshocton County Health Department.

Furniture: Check with local thrift stores, Goodwill Industries, Habitat for Humanity or Salvation Army.

Motor Oil: Used motor oil that is not contaminated with other liquids may be recycled at local auto-parts stores.

Paint: Old paint may be placed in your regular trash once it is dried out. Add saw-dust, cat-box litter or latex paint hardener to speed up the process. Consider donating larger amounts of paint to school drama clubs, youth groups or Habitat for Humanity

Plastic Bags: Clean plastic grocery bags, dry cleaning bags, bread/bun bags, bubble wrap, plastic mailing bags, etc. may be recycled locally at Buehler's Food Market. In fact, most major grocery stores accept plastic bags for recycling.

Tires: Tire retailers will normally accept old tires for a small fee.



Congratulations Are in Order!

I had the pleasure of doing a Zoom presentation in April with classes from Warsaw Elementary and Zanesville City Schools representing 62 students and their teachers. Afterward, Mrs. Lisa Lupher's 4th Grade class (Warsaw Elementary) decided to start their own recycling efforts and they should be commended for their achievement! Mrs. Lupher says, "In one month... We collected over 1600 water bottles. We collected enough paper to save three trees and we planted one tree to honor Cheryl Kempf, a former teacher at Warsaw."

We thank you for your efforts!



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