

PLASTIC POLLUTION FACT SHEET

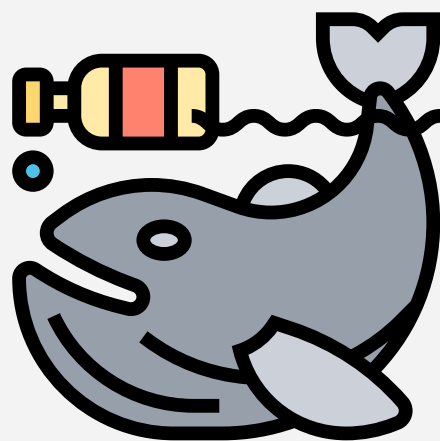


ONLY 9% OF PLASTIC TRASH IS RECYCLED

91% end up in landfill, in the oceans or are incinerated. An estimated 12 million tonnes of plastic are dumped into the ocean every year.

PLASTIC NEVER GOES AWAY

Plastic never biodegrades or decomposes into nothingness. It only breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces. A straw needs about 200 years to do so, a plastic bottle 450 - 1,000 years. That means every single piece of plastic that's ever produced is still somewhere on the planet.



PLASTIC IS DANGEROUS TO OUR HEALTH

Plastic contains toxic chemicals like BPA and phthalates. These chemicals have been linked to various types of cancer, infertility and hormone disorders. Today, 93% of all Americans have bisphenol-A (BPA) in their bloodstream.

1 MILLION SEABIRDS AND 100,000 MARINE ANIMALS

are killed by plastic every year. It entangles and chokes seals and dolphins, clogs the stomachs of birds and turtles, and poisons fish and crustaceans. Plastic also absorbs chemical pollutants like a sponge, which then accumulate in the bodies of the animals ingesting plastic pieces.

