

It takes a quarter of a liter of oil and 3 liters of water to deliver 1 liter of bottled water.
This is an intelligent use of the human ability to reason, right?



As ***Elders for Future Generations - Environment***, our mission is to work together to advocate for the protection of our most vital natural resource: WATER.

We do this by eliminating our use of bottled water, supporting the right to have clean drinking water, and stopping the commercial extraction of water from community water sources.

We seek to educate, advocate, and communicate to the general public on these issues. We bring awareness to public schools (elementary to university), institutions, and businesses about the wasted energy, wasted oil, plastic litter, and depletion of ground water created by plastic bottled water.

Water Matters (A LOT!)

- Water is indispensable for all biological survival.
- Large-scale commercial extraction depletes both the aquifers and the rivers and streams connected to them. Extraction continues in drought areas because corporations are not accountable to communities.
- The public is not compensated adequately for this loss.
- It takes over 17 million barrels of oil to meet the demand of US water bottle manufacturing. This does not include the fuel needed to transport this water to market. (Pacific Institute 2007)
- Making plastic water bottles produces millions of tons of CO₂.
- Only about 1 in 6 plastic water bottles is recycled. 20 billion wind up in landfills every year or are incinerated.
- In tests, about 1/3 of bottled water samples showed contamination, so it was not pure or safer than tap water. (NRDC 2007)

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- **RESET YOUR HABIT!**
- **BUY** an attractive **REUSABLE** glass or stainless steel container to fill with safe, clean tap water.
- Purchase a home water filter and put water in your fridge to refill your reusable bottle every day.
- Raise awareness by telling your friends and family about the impact bottled water is having on our environment.
- Recycle everything you can, especially any plastic bottles you use.
- Start a campaign at your school or workplace to “Take Back the Tap.”
- Use water fountains and ask your community officials to install more public water fountains.
- Boycott the corporations that are the leading plastic water bottlers, like Nestle (Poland Spring, Pure Life), Pepsi (Aquafina) and Coke (Dasani). At least be conscious of when and why you are buying their products.
- Conserve water that you use daily - take shorter showers, use drought resistant landscaping for lawns and gardens, get a rain barrel to collect water for gardens.
- Learn about community water justice and what your community can do to preserve and protect community water supplies.

JOIN US! Here are some resources and organizations:

- Take Back the Tap Campaign - www.foodandwaterwatch.org/campaign/take-back-tap
- Community Water Justice - protecting Maine’s aquifers: www.facebook.com/communitywaterjustice/
- Educational curriculum on plastic bottles - onemoregeneration.org/educational-program-info/
- One Green Planet Crush Plastic - www.onegreenplanet.org/crushplastic
- Story of Stuff Bottled Water - storyofstuff.org/unbottle-water/
- Surfrider Foundation - cleaning up plastic in oceans - <http://www.surfrider.eu/en/reset-your-habits/>
- Natural Resources Defense Council - www.nrdc.org/issues/protect-groundwater-supply