

JUST SAY **NO** TO STRAWS!

THE U.S. CONSUMES
500 MILLION
STRAWS A DAY.²

End to end, straws used **DAILY** in the United States could circle the planet more than two-and-a-half times.



That's over 182 **BILLION** straws a year!



Straws are made from petroleum, a toxic and polluting non-renewable resource.^{3,4,5}



Toxic additives such as colorants, plasticizers, antioxidants, and UV light filters threaten health and the environment.⁵



Emissions equivalent to 8.3 million miles driven by an average passenger vehicle every year.⁶



Generates 342 million pounds of waste annually.



Straws are one of the top 10 marine debris items found on our beaches.¹



There will be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050. At least 690 wildlife species have encountered marine debris.^{7,8}

TAKE ACTION!

- Just say NO to straws or use a reusable straw.
- Ask your local food businesses to stop using them.
- Tell your local elected officials to ban straws.



 **CLEAN WATER ACTION**
CLEAN WATER FUND

ReThink Disposable is a program of Clean Water Action and Clean Water Fund conducted in partnership with local businesses and government agencies. Generous support is provided by public and private funders. To learn more about the program, its partners and funders, visit www.rethinkdisposable.org.

ReThink Disposable
STOP WASTE BEFORE IT STARTS



SOURCES:

- 1 <http://www.coastalcleanupdata.org/datacollection/index.php?event=login&>
- 2 <https://www3.epa.gov/region9/marine-debris/#toolkit>
- 3 <http://lastplasticstraw.wix.com/laststraw>
- 4 <http://blogs.worldwatch.org/plastic-straws-a-life-cycle/>
- 5 <http://www.madehow.com/Volume-4/Drinking-Straw.html>
- 6 <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>
- 7 <http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/12846/20150219/update-700-marine-species-threatened-by-plastic-debris.htm>
- 8 <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-new-plastics-economy-rethinking-the-future-of-plastics>