Phase Out Bottled Water

Lower Your Carbon Footprint
Conserve Resources

Use a Reusable Water Bottle

- 1.5 million barrels of oil are used to make water bottles in the U.S. each year.

- Bottled water also requires oil for shipping, refrigerating, and even recycling.

- 80% of plastic bottles in the U.S. end up in a landfill or incinerator.

- More than 22 billion plastic bottles end up in the waste stream annually.

- Water quality standards set by EPA for tap water are stronger than FDA’s standards for bottled water.

- Ounce for ounce, bottled water costs more than gasoline.

From: Container Recycling Institute
http://www.container-recycling.org/

Reuse a Bag

Avoid using single use plastic shopping bags from supermarkets, pharmacies, and convenience stores.

- More than 1.6 billion gallons of oil are used to produce 380 billion bags annually in U.S.

- There is no good disposal method. Plastic bags block gas exchange when buried and are toxic when burned.

- Recycling is expensive and impractical.

Plastic bags:

- Are non-biodegradable and are made from a non-renewable resource, oil.

- Litter our roads, beaches, and waterways.

- Threaten marine life and fragile ocean ecosystems.

- Harm wildlife by entering the food chain.

- Act as endocrine disruptors.

Plastic or paper? Although paper is a renewable resource, producing paper bags is energy intensive.

The solution:
Use a reusable cloth or plastic bag.

Sources: http://fooddemocracy.wordpress.com/2008/07/16/plastic-bags-and-oil-consumption/
www.sprep.org/factsheets/pdfs/plasticbags.pdf
http://audubonportland.org/news/blog