



Is Recycling the answer?



Recycling seems good, but when you look into it it's not as good as you think it is. There is approximately 19 and a half billion pieces of single use plastic in houses in the UK. That's about 15,774 pieces of single use plastic on one street.



Over a third of single use plastic comes from supermarkets. Around 810,000 tonnes of plastic packaging is produced by supermarkets every year. That's about 405,000 small elephants. I strongly believe that supermarkets could make a big difference for the world if they reduced plastic packaging. It is outrageous that it costs more money to buy loose food items than it does to buy food in plastic packaging. It costs £1.65 to buy peppers without any plastic but it only costs 91p with plastic. Shops are trying to get you to buy items with plastic instead of without. It is disgraceful that shops are charging you more money to use your own tubs. How is this encouraging us to be more plastic free?

Evidence overwhelmingly shows that tap water is cheaper and healthier than water in plastic bottles. Despite this, people will still buy bottled water instead of bringing a reusable one and asking for it to be filled up. People only do this because it is much easier. It's not really worth buying around 8 billion plastic bottles a year? Well it's not. I implore you to just bring a reusable bottle instead of buying a plastic one. If this continues we will be spending about 16 million pounds a year on plastic water bottles. This would be better spent on donations to charities which help the environment. 50 or 60 plastic water get bought a day at one garage whilst only 1 or 2 get refilled in a week.

Now is time to find ways to do things with less plastic. You could try reducing the amount of plastic you buy or reusing it. You could turn plastic bottles into bird feeders or even just refill them and use them again. On one street in Bristol there was 7,145 pieces of single use plastic in just 22 kitchens.

There was 5,241 items in their bathrooms and 3,388 other items around the house or in the garden. That is 15,774 pieces of single use plastic in only 22 houses. It is a disgrace that we buy so much plastic.

Obviously we know now that recycling is not the answer. But the real question what are you going to stop it. A truck load of plastic is getting dumped in the sea every minute of every day. Only we can stop that.