

WATER

Bottled or tap?

guide

7 reasons to choose tap over bottled water:

According to the bottled water industry, Americans purchased over 30 gallons of bottled water per person in 2012

1. Cost of bottled vs. tap water

The average 16.9 ounce bottle of water bought at a retail operation is approximately \$1, bringing the cost to roughly \$7.57/gallon.

Bottled water costs approximately 2,000 times as much as tap water, which is virtually free in most American homes and businesses.



2. Plastic production and fossil fuels

Plastic bottles are made out of PET (polyethylene terephthalate) and require about 17.6 million barrels of oil to produce enough water bottles to meet the annual American demand.

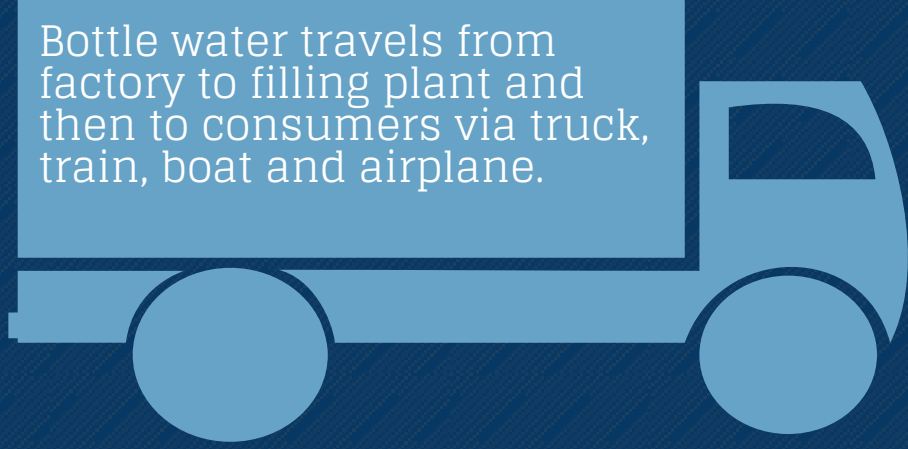


Equivalent of fueling 1 million American cars for a year.
.....1,000,000.....



3. Transportation energy

Bottle water travels from factory to filling plant and then to consumers via truck, train, boat and airplane.



Transportation energy for bottled water equals or exceeds the energy required to produce the bottles.

4. Drought and environmental impacts

One beverage company bottles 700 million gallons of water per year in drought-ridden California. At a time when water restrictions are placed on residents, bottled water companies are extracting water from municipal and groundwater supplies.



.....No one has studied the environmental and water supply impacts of water extraction for bottling.

5. Privatization vs. common resource

Many see bottled water as a human rights issue. Beverage companies are extracting a common resource needed for all life and selling it for profit. It may cause public resources to be diverted from improving infrastructure necessary to provide safe drinking water for all.

HUMAN RIGHT?



6. Plastic Bottle Waste

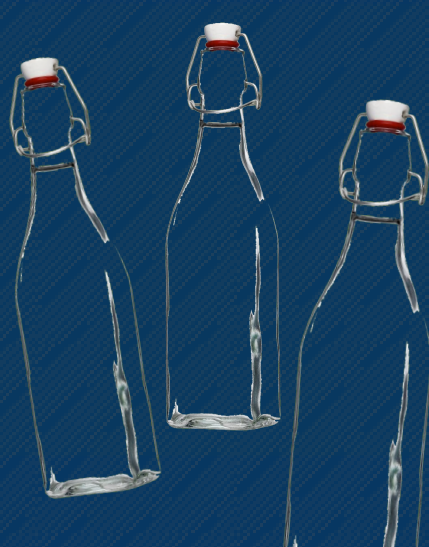
Americans throw away 185 pounds of plastic individually each year and 35,000,000,000 plastic bottles collectively.



90% of all trash on the ocean's surface is plastic

7. Chemicals in Plastic Water Bottles

Plastic water bottles contain chemicals that leach into the water over time and with increased temperature. Even BPA-free bottles may not be safe. To prevent the consumption of potentially dangerous chemicals, choose a reusable bottle made of glass or stainless steel instead.



3 resources for more information

