

OMF First Friday Fun Facts

Maybe you're tired of the "sustainability" and "green" buzz words that have become commonplace in our world. After all, green is just a color. But the point here is not to just talk the talk, but rather, to think critically and live thoughtfully. One easy way to think more critically about your actions is to gather information that can help you make informed decisions.

Below are some interesting facts on plastic bottles that illustrate just how easy it is to find information. This information is from a quick internet search that took less than five minutes.

The advent of bottled water sent our already wasteful consumer culture into pollution overdrive, and we all know what a tremendous task it has been putting the brakes on the momentum of this waste. Here is a list of plastic bottle facts that put the magnitude of this problem into perspective:

- Plastic bottles take 700 years to begin composting
- 90% of the cost of bottled water is due to the bottle itself
- 80% of plastic bottles are not recycled
- 38 million plastic bottles go to the dump each year in America from bottled water (this figure does not include soda!)
- It takes a gallon of oil to produce 41 plastic bottles
- The average American consumes 167 bottles of water a year, translating into an annual consumption for the US of over 51 billion bottles each year
- Bottling & shipping water is the least energy efficient method ever used to supply water
- Bottled water is the second most popular beverage in the United States



Although it can be easy and convenient to pick up bottled beverage products, the end cost to the environment is staggering. Please consider alternatives like keeping a cup at your desk or opting for tap water (Portland's water is ranked #1 for taste!)

This information comes from <http://greenupgrader.com>



This Friday Fact Sheet is brought to you by the OMF "W.I.S.E Guys & Gals": Workplace Innovators for a Sustainable Earth, OMF's new sustainability team. Watch for new tips every first Friday of the month!