

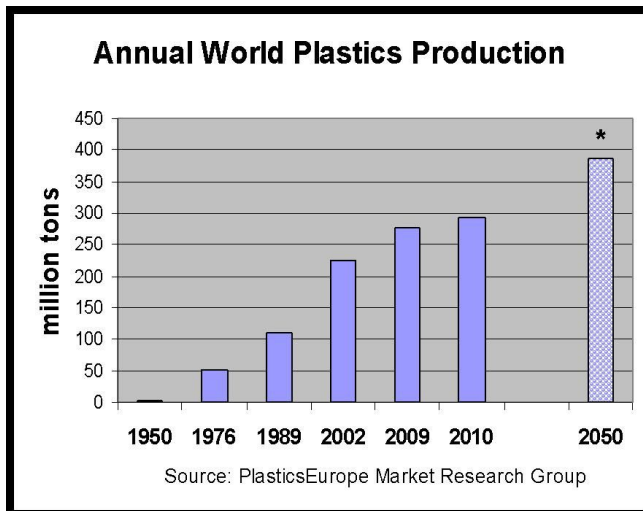
Effects of plastics on earth.

Introduction :

Even if you live in a an urban megacity or a rural farmland, you surely see plastic bags around you. People love plastic, it's very useful : you can change its shape and it is very light and also cheap. BUT it causes many problems. Because it is cheap, people throw the plastics away instead of re-used them

Globally, people use 100 million tons of plastic a year it's equal to 85 million cars. In the 1950s, people used only 5 million tons per year.

I) Important data



How many of them do we use?

1 trillion plastic bags a year globally

1 million plastic bags every minute

100 billion plastic bags in the United States every year

15 plastic bags by a family on every trip to the supermarket

And what about plastic bottles? How many of those do we use?

190 billion drinks in plastic bottles in the United States every year

2.5 million plastic bottles in the United States every hour

500 plastic bottles per U.S. household per year

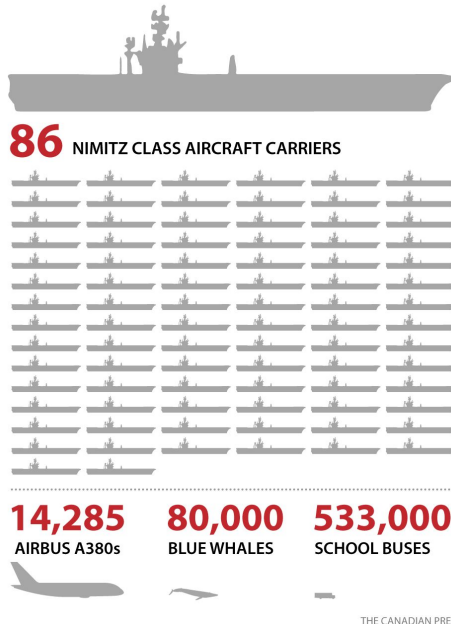
2 plastic drink containers a day per person in the United States

PLASTIC DRIFTING INTO OCEANS

In 2010, around eight million metric tons

of shopping bags, bottles, food wrappers, toys and other plastic waste drifted into the world's oceans, according to a study published in the journal Science.

THAT WEIGHS ABOUT AS MUCH AS...



II) The Impact

This huge amount of plastic affects our world in dangerous ways.

First of all, plastic doesn't decompose quickly. A plastic bag, for example, can endure in the environment for 1,000 years. A thousand years ago it was the 1100s! So the plastic waste we generate today isn't going to go away. It's going to pile up on land and float in the oceans. Only about 1 in 5 plastic bottles gets recycled. That means that 4 out of 5 go into landfills. Only about 5% of plastic bags get recycled.

More than 90% of humans on the planet have chemical residue from plastics in their bodies

86% of debris in the ocean is plastic

More than 1 million birds and marine mammals die from ingesting or getting tangled in plastic every year.

Air Pollution

Burning of plastic in the open air, leads to environmental pollution due to the release of poisonous chemicals. The polluted air when inhaled by humans and animals affect their health and can cause respiratory problems.

III)How to reduce the plastic pollution ?

TIPS

Making biodegradable plastic from waste milk protein for a sustainable packaging alternative

To reduce the plastics pollution we just have to do some simple actions:

- like put the plastic that you don't use in the recycle bin.
- say no to straws when you order a beverage
- bring your own reusable bag at the supermarket
- instead of buying plastic bottles invest on glass plastic bottle, it's cheaper in the long run