

IT'S TIME TO GO PLASTIC-FREE

PLASTIC POLLUTION IS ONE OF THE MOST DAMAGING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES SCOTLAND IS FACING AND IT'S ONLY GETTING WORSE. AS OUR CONSUMPTION INCREASES AND THE GLOBAL POPULATION REACHES NEW HIGHS, OUR LEVELS OF WASTE ARE ROCKETING...

...BUT BECAUSE IT'S AN ISSUE THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME CAUSE, IT MEANS PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME CAN BE THE SOLUTION.



WHAT'S SO BAD?

IN OUR DAILY LIVES, WE USE HUGE AMOUNTS OF PLASTIC- IT'S THE TOOTHBRUSH IN YOUR MOUTH, THE CHAIR YOU'RE SAT ON, THE FOOD YOU EAT, EVERY PARCEL YOU RECEIVE. AFTER THEIR SHORT USE, THESE PLASTICS FLOAT AROUND OUR WORLD FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, GRADUALLY BREAKING INTO SMALLER AND SMALLER PIECES CALLED 'MICROPLASTICS' THAT CAN INFILTRATE OUR WATER, AIR AND BODIES, CREATING HAZARDS FOR WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE ALIKE.



IN SCOTLAND, LITTERING PUTS AROUND 200 MILLION PIECES OF MACROPLASTIC INTO THE SEA EVERY YEAR.

SO, FIRSTLY-



PUT IT IN THE BIN!



ONE EXAMPLE OF THE MORE SUBTLE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION IS IN OTTERS.

IT'S RECENTLY BEEN FOUND THAT OTTER SPRANTS (POOPS) CONTAIN MICROPLASTICS DUE THE FISH THAT THEY EAT. WHILST THE LONG-TERM AFFECTS OF BIOACCUMULATION OF MICROPLASTICS ARE NOT YET KNOWN, OTTERS ARE OFTEN ONE OF THE APEX PREDATORS IN THEIR AREAS, SO ARE ESSENTIAL FOR DISEASE REGULATION, BIODIVERSITY MAINTENANCE, AND KEEPING THEIR ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING.



SO WHAT CAN WE DO?

AS WELL AS BEACH CLEANS AND THE SORTING OF OUR WASTE, THE BEST WAY TO PREVENT PLASTIC ENTERING LANDFILL OR OUR OCEANS IS TO NOT CREATE IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

KEEP AN EYE WHAT YOU'RE THROWING AWAY- A CHART OF SOME SORT ABOVE OR AROUND YOUR BIN TO RECORD WHAT'S GOING INTO IT CAN BE SUPER HELPFUL. ONCE YOU'VE IDENTIFIED YOUR CULPRITS, YOU CAN EITHER CUT THESE NON-ESSENTIALS OUT OF YOUR SHOPPING OR SWITCH TO ONE OF THE MANY EMERGING ALTERNATIVES.



SCAN HERE

MAKE SCOTLAND PLASTIC FREE!

LARGE SCALE PRODUCTION OF PLASTICS DIDN'T START UNTIL THE 1950'S, SO IT'S CLEAR THAT HUMAN BEINGS ARE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF SURVIVING WITHOUT. AS MUCH AS BEACH CLEANS ARE GREAT, REAL CHANGE COMES FROM STOPPING THE SOURCE, NOT JUST MITIGATING ITS EFFECTS. YOU CAN HELP TO CONTRIBUTE TO CREATING NEW LAWS ON PLASTIC USE RIGHT NOW BY VISITING:

WWW.MAKESCOTLANDPLASTICFREE.CO.UK

THE TIME IS NOW...

WE'RE ON THE EDGE OF A NEW FUTURE RIGHT NOW.

THIS IS A PIVOTAL TIME IN EARTHS HISTORY: THE TURNING POINT FOR THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE THAT OUR WILDLIFE CAN TAKE BEFORE THE POINT OF NO RETURN . IF WE WANT FUTURE GENERATIONS TO HAVE THE SAME PRIVILEGE OF THE NATURAL WORLD THAT WE DO, THEN WE HAVE TO ACT NOW.

CHANGE IS A WAVE, AND IT STARTS WITH ONE CLICK.



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