

The Kreamer Street PTA presents



reusable kreamer bags

Your child received a reusable eco-friendly Kreamer bag as part of our PTA Earth Day Celebration. We have a limited amount of bags remaining and are offering them to our Kreamer families for \$3.00 each. Bags will be sold on a first ordered, first served basis.

If you are interested in supporting our Earth by supporting our school, please order by completing the form below. Checks should be made payable to the Kreamer Street PTA.

Thank you for making Earth Day, every day!

=====Please Cut Here=====

~Kindly fill out this [PTA's Reusable Kreamer Bag form](#) and return it to your child's teacher~

Family Name _____

Student Name & Teacher _____

of bags _____ Amount enclosed _____



Disposable shopping bags—they're everywhere. The average American goes through six per week. So what's the big deal? Multiply that six by our current population (roughly 300 million) and it starts to add up. Here we've compiled 25 good reasons to pick up a reusable bag and make the next plastic bag you throw out your last.

1. A plastic shopping bag can take anywhere from **15 to 1000 years to decompose**. In a compressed landfill, deprived of atmosphere to help them biodegrade, paper bags don't fare much better.
2. Plastic bags **don't biodegrade, but are at risk for photo degradation**, light exposure dissolving them into toxic polymer particles. Most often, when this happens, it happens in the ocean.
3. The cost to recycle plastic bags so outweighs their value that **most recycling facilities will not take them**, leading more and more to just be thrown out with the rest of the trash.
4. According to the Wall Street Journal, **only 1% of plastic bags are recycled world-wide**; the rest are left to live on indefinitely in landfills.
5. The United States alone uses approximately **100 billion new plastic bags per year** - the average person goes through between 350 and 500.
6. Thanks to their light weight, plastic bags are the debris **most likely to fly away from landfills**, settling instead in trees, storm drains, beaches, and the ocean.
7. Public agencies in California alone spend over **\$300 million on coastal litter clean-up** per year.
8. Plastic bags make up **over 10% of washed-up debris** polluting the US coastline.
9. According to the British Antarctic Survey, discarded plastic bags have been found **as far north as the Arctic Circle and as far south as The Falkland Islands**.
10. An estimated **one million birds and 100,000 turtles and other sea animals die of starvation each year** after ingesting discarded plastic bags which block their digestive tracks.
11. Made from petroleum products and natural gas, **plastic bags utilize nonrenewable resources**, ultimately helping to drive up fuel prices.
12. It takes **12 million barrels of oil** to produce the amount of plastic bags the US uses per year.
13. Think paper bags are better? The United States cuts down **14 million trees per year** simply to supply the demand for paper shopping bags.
14. It requires **13% more energy** to produce one single paper bag than to produce two plastic bags.
15. Made with chemicals processed at high temperatures, **paper bag production releases many toxins into the atmosphere** at much the same rate as plastic production.
16. Paper bags weigh **nearly ten times their counterparts in plastic**, requiring more fuel to ship them out to stores.
17. Despite their high recyclability factor, research shows that **only 20% of paper bags end up recycled** while the rest share a fate with their plastic brethrens.
18. In landfills, **paper bags produce over twice as much atmospheric waste as plastic**, making them questionable at best as the superior choice for the environment.
19. Ireland, the first European country to impose a tax on them, has **decreased plastic shopping bag consumption by 90% since 2002**, reducing overall plastic bag usage by 1.08 billion.
20. In the past five years, **over a dozen countries** have banned or put a tax on disposable bags.
21. Reusable bags come **in all sorts of smart and stylish shapes and prints**, making your shopping trips a little less routine and a little more fun.
22. Some grocery stores even offer **discounts for customers who bring their own bags** - now that's incentive!
23. In New York City, **one less grocery bag per person would reduce waste by 5 million pounds** and save \$250,000 in disposal costs.
24. The average reusable bag has the lifespan of **over seven hundred disposable plastic bags**.
25. Over a lifetime, use of reusable bags by just **one person would save over 22,000 plastic bags**. Isn't that even better incentive?

Source: Taken from www.reusethisbag.com