

FACTS ON PLASTIC

- ⇒ **160,000 plastic bags are used globally. 5 trillion plastic bags are produced yearly. Side by side that can encircle the world 7 times!**
- ⇒ **The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, which is a floating landfill of garbage in the Pacific is twice the size of Texas! It is mostly composed of plastic.**
- ⇒ **12.7 million tons of plastic are dumped into the ocean every single year!**
- ⇒ **50% of plastic we use, we only use once and throw it away.**
- ⇒ **The Average American throws away approx. 185 pounds of plastic every year.**
- ⇒ **100,000 marine mammals and 1,000,000 sea birds are killed every year from plastic in the ocean.**
- ⇒ **44% of all seabird species, 22% of cetaceans, all sea turtle species and a growing list of fish species have been documented with plastic in or around their bodies.**
- ⇒ **Virtually every piece of plastic that was ever made still exists in some shape or form.**
- ⇒ **It takes 500-1,000 years for plastic to degrade.**
- ⇒ **Plastic chemicals can be absorbed by the body. 93% of Americans age six or older test positive for BPA (a plastic chemical)**
- ⇒ **Americans throw away 35 billion plastic water bottles every year.**

RISE ABOVE PLASTIC

- ⇒ **Choose to reuse when it comes to shopping bags and bottled water. Cloth bags and metal or glass reusable bottles are available locally or on Amazon.com**
- ⇒ **Refuse single-use plastics such as: straws, bags and utensils.**
- ⇒ **Purchase reusable straws, bags and utensils online.**
- ⇒ **If you must use plastic, please recycle. When recycling properly, items must be rinsed and cleaned before putting into the bin.**
- ⇒ **Volunteer for beach and lake cleanups. Surfrider Foundation is an excellent place to start looking at where you can help!**
- ⇒ **Spread the word on social media. Many people do not understand the effects they have on our planet. By sharing, people will become more aware and make better changes!**
- ⇒ **Bring your own to-go mug and cup to coffee spots. Many support this and offer small discounts for doing your part!**
- ⇒ **Contact Pleaforthesea.com by website, Facebook or Instagram to see what initiatives we are doing to impact a cleaner planet!**