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Jude
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(as part of 1st yr Freshers day) (3)

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WHAT IS PLASTIC?

Plastic is material consisting of any of a wide range of synthetic or semi-synthetic organic compounds that are malleable and so can be moulded into solid objects. Plastics are typically organic polymers of high molecular mass and often contain other substances. They are usually synthetic, most commonly derived from petrochemicals

HISTORY OF PLASTIC:

The first manmade plastic was parkesine, invented by Alexander Parkes (UK) (1813-1890). Derived from plant cellulose, the shape of parkesine could be moulded when heated, but it kept its shape once cooled.



PRESENT SITUATION

WITH PLASTIC:

- + 8,300 million tonnes of virgin plastics have been produced
- + Half of this material was made in just the past 13 years
- + About 30% of the historic production remains in use today
- + Of the discarded plastic, roughly 9% has been recycled
- + Some 12% has been incinerated, but 79% has gone to landfill
- + Shortest-use items are packaging, typically less than a year
- + Longest-use products are found in construction and machinery
- + Current trends point to 12 billion tonnes of waste by 2050

DISADVANTAGES OF PLASTIC:

HARMFUL TO NATURE

Disposable plastics used in packaging foodstuff meant for human consumption contain harmful compounds. Improper disposal of these packaging products leads to these harmful compounds.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

Plastics are generally non-biodegradable; hence, they may take centuries to decay. This is due to the intermolecular bonds that constitute plastics, whose structure ensures that the plastics neither corrode nor decompose.

LOW MELTING POINT

Plastics generally have a low melting point, so they can't be used where heat levels are high. This also means they cannot be used as protective barrier for furnaces.

WATER POLLUTION

Plastics are made of many chemicals. These chemicals will be always leaching out into the water. This causes water pollution.



PLASTIC FREE WORLD

There are many ways that we can reduce our waste at home with a little effort and education about eco-friendly alternatives. All it takes is a bit of awareness and social responsibility to do the right thing by the environment and every living thing that depends on it.

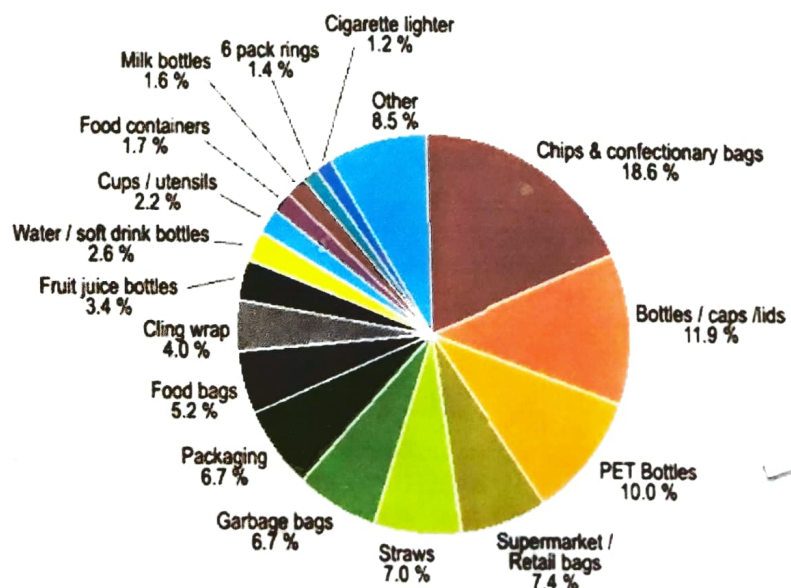
Most of us use them every day, the thin plastic bags used by almost every retailer we visit. Whether we're shopping for groceries or the newest Prada, you can almost guarantee that you'll be leaving the store with a plastic bag stuffed full of your new goodies. Then, when you arrive home, you'll quickly remove them like a kid opening Christmas presents, tossing aside the wrapping with thoughtless abandon. Have you ever stopped to consider what happens to those plastic bags? Has it ever occurred to you just how many of them we go through, individually, in a year?

PREVENTION OF PLASTIC:

- Bring your own shopping bag.
- Bring your own thermos to the coffee shop.
- Choose cardboard over plastic bags.
- Skip to disposable razor.
- Re-think your food storage
- Shop in bulk
- Carry a reusable bottle.
- Say no to plastic straws.
- Avoid excessive food packaging.
- Switch from disposable diapers to cloth

CONCLUSION:

With plastic free world we'll have healthy surroundings; some of the air pollution, water pollution, and environmental pollution can be reduced. And we will have disease free live.



SOURCE : www.wikipedia.org
: www.bizfluent.com
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