

Be kind to your mother

Given our alternatives, we should treat Mother Earth with all the respect she deserves.

REVIEW ONLY

Here are some things that will make a world of difference:

School Datebooks

→ Five recycled 2-liter plastic bottles can produce enough fiberfill to stuff a ski jacket.

→ Everyone in the world could eat 6 picnics based on the number of plates and cups Americans throw away each year. Manufacturing a standard disposable battery takes 50 times more pollution than producing a rechargeable battery.

→ Just one quart of motor oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of drinking water.

→ 100,000 marine mammals die each year from eating or becoming entangled in plastic debris.

Every year Americans → toss away enough office and writing paper to build a 12-foot-high wall spanning the miles between New York City and Los Angeles.

A few enviro-facts

Never litter. Ever.	Dish it. Use real silverware and dishes instead of disposable ones.
Pick paper, not foam or plastic. Foam cups are NOT biodegradable. In fact, 60% of the 10 billion Styrofoam cups that are thrown away each year are still around today.	Opt for e-mail to save paper.
Make a deposit. If you live in a state that has a bottle-deposit program, make sure you participate.	Be smart when you shop. Some companies have found more enviro-friendly ways to make their products. Patagonia, an outdoor outfitter, makes its synthetic fleece from recycled two-liter bottles instead of crude oil. The program has saved enough fuel to fill the gargantuan Chevy Suburban's 40-gallon gas tank 10,000 times.
Share a ride. Riding with someone saves gas and cuts down on air pollution, and it's more fun.	
Share your old stuff. Rather than throw them away, give your old toys, clothes, sports equipment, books, backpack, etc., to people who can use them.	Be your own bottler. Convince your family to invest in a water-purification system or buy water in those huge reusable bottles. Then you can refill water bottles rather than buy hundreds of individual ones each year.

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