

## Lobby for Single-Use Ban in Your Community - Petition copy

[Some [image options](#) to include in your petition]

**Header:** Tell [name of decision maker] to ban single-use plastic and support alternative delivery systems based on reuse and refill.

**Body copy:** The production of single-use plastic is out of control. Plastic is literally everywhere—ocean depths, mountain peaks, the stomachs of animals, the food we eat, and even the air we breathe.

8.3 billion tonnes of plastic has been produced since the 1950s, and only 9% of that has been recycled. It is clear that we cannot recycle our way out of this crisis.

As individuals, we feel that is almost impossible not to create waste, even when shopping for something as basic as food.

Transitioning to reusables is the best way forward. It provides many economic, environmental, and social benefits. Reuse systems also ensure that we do not simply replace one disposable material with another, shifting the problem from one place to another, for example from polluting our oceans to cutting our forests.

Lets create a new normal—a world free of single-use plastic!

### Letter to decision maker copy:

Dear [Title] [Name of Official],

I am sure that you are aware that plastic waste is a big problem across the world, mostly because of single-use plastic. It is a problem that we can tackle locally with stronger regulations and supporting solutions. Your actions can make a big difference.

It is clear that we can't recycle ourselves out of this crisis. Transitioning to reusables is one of the most efficient solutions. It provides great economic, environmental and social benefits. Reuse systems also ensure that we do not simply replace one disposable material with another, shifting the impacts from one place to another, for example from our oceans to our forests.

As an individual, I feel that is almost impossible not to create waste, even when shopping for basic necessities such as food.

As a voting citizen, I want to see some changes, most urgently [city/municipal/state or national] laws that lay down:

1. Bans and reduction targets on single-use plastic items:
  - Immediate bans on problematic and unnecessary single-use plastic items such as disposable plates, cutlery, beverage stirrers, cotton swabs, straws, balloon sticks, light-weight plastic bags, cigarette filters and balloons. Update and add to the list of banned items every year;
  - A 50% reduction of single-use plastic packaging and inessential items by 2025 and 80% by 2030.
2. Targets on reusables:
  - Replace 70% of single-use plastic beverage bottles (for example beer and soft drinks) and takeaway drink cups with refillables, ideally within one year, but no later than 2025.
  - Institute a requirement that cleaning products and food containers be reusable.
  - Support these targets with taxes on single-use plastics that significantly raise the price to end consumers and/or institute obligatory deposit return systems for the products covered by the reusables target.
3. Require all grocery stores larger than independent corner shops to offer 80% of their fresh food unpackaged and invest in public spaces that offer water and unpackaged goods (e.g. public drinking fountains and fresh food markets).

Your actions as a local decision maker are crucial. You will not only help the environment but will also strengthen the local economy by promoting more local jobs and relieving the pressure on the waste management infrastructure.