

P L A S T I C



Plastic from plastic bags is with us for a long, long time.



“Newspapers take two to five months to biodegrade in a compost heap; banana peels take several days. But when scientists test generic plastic bags, nothing happens—there's no CO₂ production and no decomposition. Why? The most common type of plastic shopping bag—the kind you get at supermarkets—is made of polyethylene, a man-made polymer that microorganisms don't recognize as food. “

Slate, June 27, 2007

Unfortunately, plastic stays with turtles too



Plastic bags look just like jellyfish.



Rise Above Plastics Campaign



**Surfrider
Foundation.**

The bags get caught inside
and sometimes are pooped out



Shany Nagaoka, www.seaturtle.org

Another turtle pooping plastic



Randall Arauz, www.seaturtle.org

Other animals also eat plastic bags



A Minke Whale washed up dead on the Normandy coast. Cause of death? - The animals' stomach was full of plastic bags, and throwaway plastic packaging.

Daily Mail 27 February 2008

Why and how does this happen?

Bags and other disposable ONE USE plastic products are lightweight



They blow out of trash bins

They blow in our roads



They even blow out of our landfills



A "bag fence" at a landfill northern NY

Photo submitted by Amanda L.

<http://www.reusablebags.com/galleryPics.php?id=79>

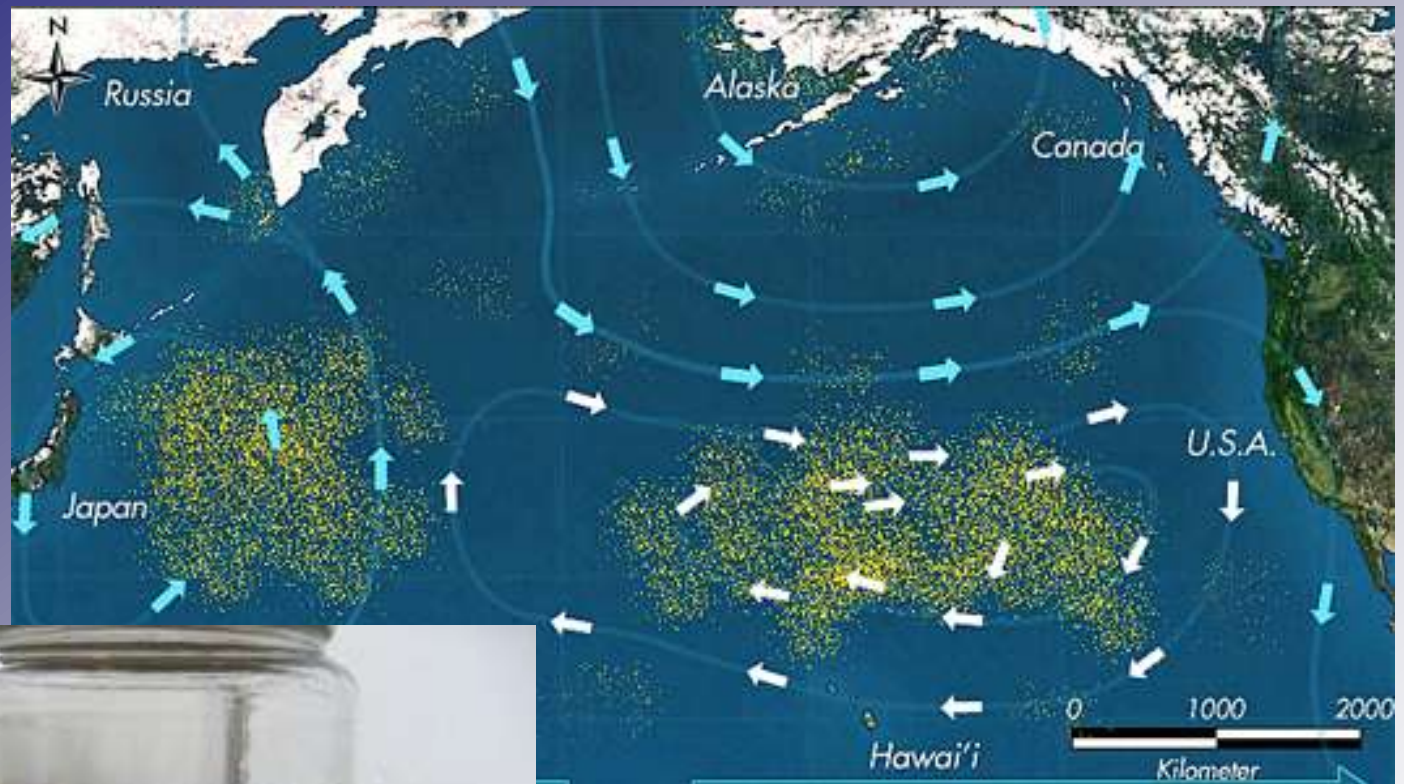
And they get into our waterways
and slither out into the ocean



Plastics and plastic bags don't decompose.
Instead, they break down into
smaller and smaller bits



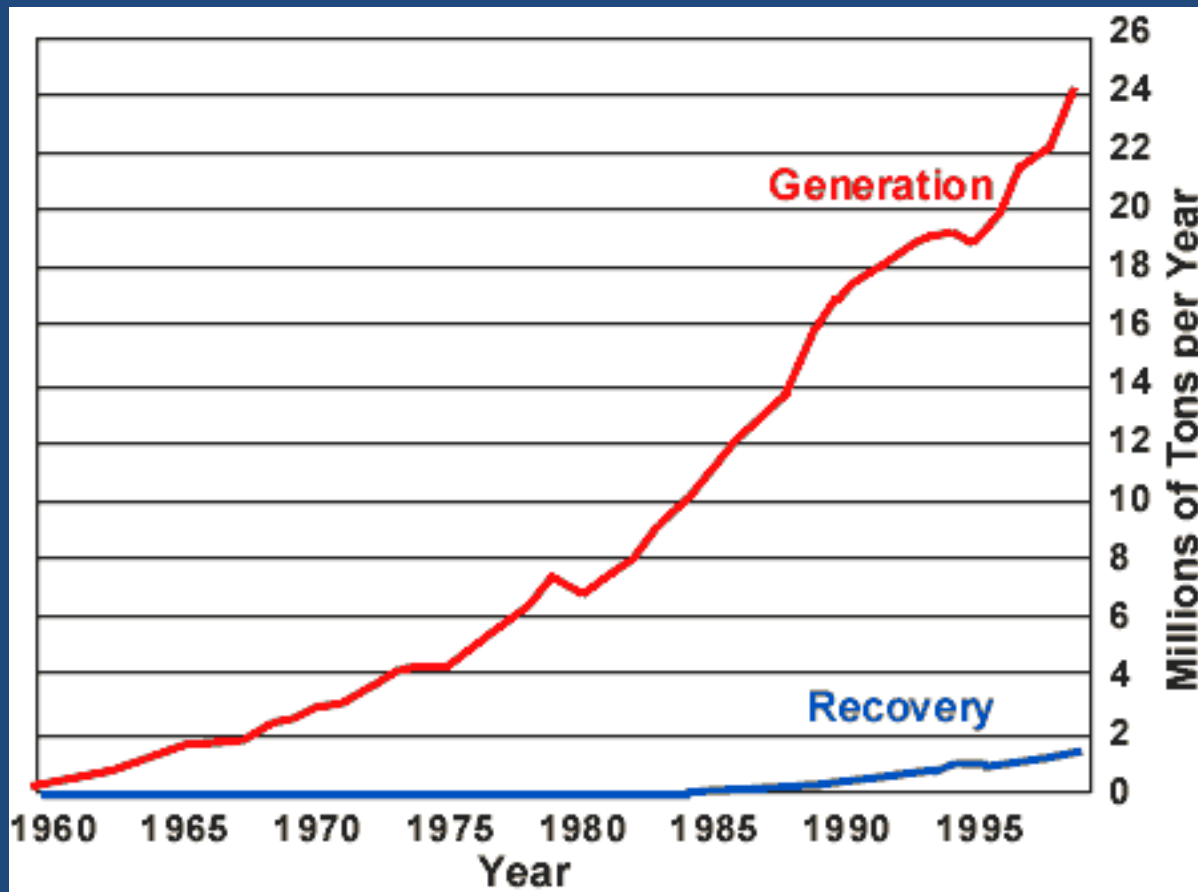
Algalita Marine Research Foundation



North Pacific Gyre Trash Patch

**And end up in the
world's ocean
accumulating in
the gyres!**

And our plastic production just goes up and up



Gumming up recycling machines

~ 1/4 of workers' time goes toward taking plastic bags out of the sort line and the machinery at Portland sorting facility.



*Think plastic bags are a hassle? Ask a recycler
Ubiquitous trash downgrades materials and clogs
machinery BY KATE GAWF Pamplin Media Group,
Aug 14, 2007*

Let's stop this







Greenhouse Carbon Neutral Fdn

The pundits say that young*
people won't vote in a primary

**under 30*

Prove them wrong

Your vote really could
change
the outcome

Don't fall for the American Chemistry Council's mistruths

- The referendum includes specific support for low income citizens and food banks
- Food banks will not pay the fee (of course!)
- Grocery sales at supercenters like Fred Meyer ARE included. Walmarts would be included too but there are no Walmarts in Seattle (if ACC were from Seattle they would know this)

**They are willing to say anything to
protect their profits!**

Vote **YeS** on Referendum 1 on
the Seattle primary ballot.
Must be mailed by August 18

Together, we will end this



For more information
www.greenbagcampaign.org

Thank You!

