

Attention Shoppers!



It takes one 15-20 year old tree to make enough paper for only 700 grocery bags!

Paper or Plastic?

- Plastic shopping bags are often more convenient than paper—but they are not degradable. Even the “biodegradable” plastic bags never completely disappear—they just break up into little pieces. All plastic is made from petroleum a nonrenewable resource.
- Plastic bags often wind up in the ocean and kill marine animals that get tangled up in them or swallow them.
- The ink used on plastic bags contains cadmium, a toxic heavy metal. So when printed plastic bags are incinerated, heavy metals are sent into the air.
- Paper bags are reusable and biodegradable, but don’t come ecologically cheap, either. Supermarket bags, for example, are always made from virgin paper (paper that’s never been recycled) because, manufacturers say, heavy loads require the long fibers in virgin pulp.

- Check the printing on a supermarket shopping bag—it might say “recyclable,” but it won’t say, “recycled.”

What to do?

- Think twice before taking any bag if your purchase is small. If every American shopper took just one less bag each month, we could save hundreds of millions of bags every year.
- Take a cloth bag with you when you shop.
- For grocery shopping, use string bags. They are easy to carry and fold up conveniently.



Prepared by:
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Source:
Simple Things to Save The Earth

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