



Over half of Americans use bottled water, at least occasionally. The top reasons given for buying bottled water are convenience, taste, and concerns about safety of tap water. Read on, and become part of reversing this trend for your health, environment and economy.

Clean Water For North Carolina

www.cwfnc.org
www.facebook.com/CWFNC



Thank you for protecting local, public tap water!

Want more information? Contact Clean Water for North Carolina!
 29 1/2 Page Avenue, Asheville NC 28801 □ 1-800-929-4480 □
info@cwfn.org

Working with communities for clean, safe places to live, work and play since 1984.



What Do You Know about.... Bottled Water?



Working with Communities for Safe Drinking Water and Environmental Justice
www.cwfnc.org

Unsafe



The truth is ***bottled water is not safer and better regulated than tap water at all.***

Top brands like Aquafina and Dasani, labeled "Purified Water," is usually just tap water from big cities put through a special process to just improve taste. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), not the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regulates bottled water. Monitoring is infrequent and fewer contaminants are measured than public tap water supplies. Some products are not regulated at all (such as products labeled "filtered water," "seltzer water," "tonic water," or products bought and sold in the same state).

Expensive

Have you ever calculated how much you spend on bottled water annually? According to the AAA's *Daily Fuel Gauge Report*, bottled water can cost nearly 2,400 times the price of tap water and almost three times the price of regular-grade gasoline per gallon – **Why pay more?**



Wasteful

Bottled water industry produces up to 1.5 million tons of plastic waste per year. The process releases chemicals into the environment, uses up petroleum resources and adds to our waste stream. Only 25% of the plastic bottles are recycled! The rest end up somewhere eventually – beaches, oceans, landfills; and stay without breaking down for thousands of years.

Consider these other environmental and health impacts of bottled water:

- Bottled water must be transported, using fuel. 1/4 of bottled water is consumed outside its country of origin.
- High temperatures may cause the plastics to leach toxic and carcinogenic chemicals into the water, putting your health at risk and adding more toxins to our environment!

"Bottled water has environmental justice, health, and economic implications from source to landfill. In NC, let's kick the habit and protect our affordable, local drinking water sources here at home!" –CWFNC

More Information:

- Food & Water Watch: Take Back the Tap: Bottled Water Wastes Resources and Money
<http://documents.foodandwaterwatch.org/doc/TakeBacktheTap2013.pdf>
- EPA: Bottled Water Basics
http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw000/faq/pdfs/fs_healthseries_bottlewater.pdf
- The Story of Bottled Water (10-minute video)
<http://storyofstuff.com/bottledwater>

Bottled water marketing leads people to believe it's cleaner than tap water. People who consume a lot of bottled water may not realize the importance of supporting funding for maintenance and improvement of our public water systems. Federal funding for water systems has fallen steeply in the U.S. since the 1970s. In many cases, water pumping by bottlers drains the local community's water system.

Work to protect YOUR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY and local groundwater for OVER 2.5 MILLION WELL USERS in NC!