

# Harborough Plastics Pledge



We are all becoming aware that the world is awash with plastic, which is doing immense harm to the environment and to both wildlife and human life on land and sea. We need to reduce our reliance on single-use plastic.

Even small actions can make a big difference. Would you like to show your support? Please sign up for as many actions as you can.

Put this copy of the pledge in the box in St Dionysius Church in the High Street or at the Refill Revolution stall in the food hall at Harborough Market.

Name ..... Email .....

- I will responsibly recycle all I can, whenever I can.
- I will regularly use multi-use bags when I go shopping.
- I will try to re-use plastic bags and containers from food packaging.
- I will use my own water bottle and re-usable mug when out and about and say no to plastic straws and cutlery.
- I will check plastic wrappers to see if they can be recycled through my local supermarket even if not accepted by Council recycling.
- I will try to buy fresh food that has been locally grown / produced.
- I will try to buy unwrapped 'loose' vegetables/fruit whenever practical, rather than those wrapped in plastic or plastic nets.
- I will do what I can to lobby politicians, business leaders and manufacturers to do more to reduce our reliance on single-use plastics.

*This Plastics Pledge is organised by Eco Church Harborough with the support of Harborough District Council. To find out more or to share ideas, contact Brian Davis: mhplasticspledge@gmail.com By adding your email address to this form means that you consent to being kept informed about future eco events or local campaigns. Your personal data will not be used for any other purpose and will not be shared with any third parties unless individual consent has been obtained or it is permitted by law. If you wish to remove your details at any time, email mhplasticspledge@gmail.com*



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Pin up this copy of the pledge somewhere in your home where it will be a daily reminder.

I ..... pledge that

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# Did you know?

There are believed to be 46,000 pieces of plastic in every square mile of ocean.

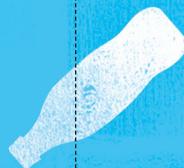
Most families throw away about 40kg of plastic per year, which could be recycled.

The world's annual consumption of plastic materials has increased from around 5 million tonnes in the 1950s to nearly 100 million tonnes today (WRAP).

About half of annual plastic production is destined for single-use products.

Recycling just one plastic bottle saves enough energy to power a 60W light bulb for six hours.

If you lined up all the polystyrene foam cups made in just 1 day they would circle the earth.



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# Did you know?

The ten major retailers use 810 thousand tonnes of single-use plastic in their products every year.

Only 57% of plastic bottles are recycled in the UK compared with 96% in Norway and 98.5% in Germany, where bottles carry a refundable deposit of 22p.

Every day around 15 million plastic bottles (5.5 billion a year) enter the UK waste stream after just one use.

It is estimated that some 1.2 million tonnes of plastic film from packaging arises in the UK waste stream every year. Of this, around two thirds are post-consumer (i.e. from household) and one third from commercial, industrial and agricultural sources.

The UK flushes 12.7 million tonnes of plastic into the oceans every year. This includes plastic bottles, bags, toiletries, microbeads and nurdles, which are the minute pellets that form the building blocks of plastic products.

Plastic can take up to 500 years to decompose.

