

The Plastic Predicament

Understanding and Tackling Plastic Pollution

Plastic production has surged over 70 years, but most of it isn't recycled. Plastic pollution, taking 100–1,000 years to decompose, is carried by rivers and lakes to the ocean, worsening marine pollution.

Plastic pollution is one of the most pressing environmental issues today, affecting our oceans, wildlife, and human health.

Information box

- Around 11 million tons of plastic enter the oceans yearly, with this amount possibly tripling by 2024
- Microplastics have been found in human lungs, blood, and even the air we breathe.
- Plastic production contributes to 3.4% of global greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to all air travel.
- Only about 9% of all plastic waste ever produced has been recycled

Graphic and statistic content

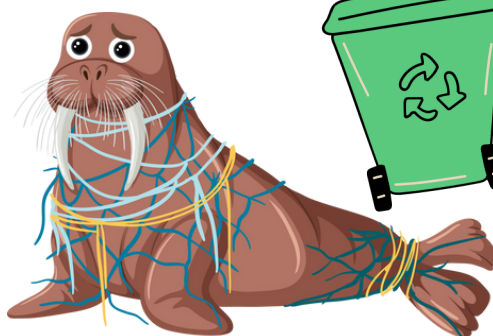
Plastics impact does not just go as far as producing pollution; it plays a crucial role in the climate crisis. Manufacturing plastic is a process which is highly regarded as energy-intensive, which means it requires large amounts of fossil fuels like crude oil to be heated and chemically processed into polymers. In 2019 alone, plastics were responsible for emitting 1.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gases, accounting for 3.4% of global emissions.



Content

what's the negative impact of plastic waste?

- Plastic Pollution endangers over 1,500 animal species, causing them to ingest, get trapped in, or suffocate from it.
- Carcinogenic chemicals from plastics can leach into tap water leading to developmental, reproductive, neurological, and immune disorders.
- Microplastics, found in drinking water, blood, and arteries, can lead to heart attacks, strokes, cancer, and fertility issues.



Source
<https://www.unep.org/plastic-pollution>



Co-funded by
the European Union

VOYAGER
EMPOWERING YOUTH.
TRANSFORMING
TOMORROW!