

Bottled Water

Did you know that up to 3 litres of water are used to manufacture 1 plastic water bottle?

Often the water is sourced from public water supplies and then goes through a treatment before it goes into the plastic bottles. The resulting water is often of no better quality than that of tap water, which in Australia is of a high quality anyway, and is often better than the bottled variety, according to John Langford of the Melbourne Water Research Centre.

Stored water often grows bacteria and other things.

Bottled water has to be transported to the points of sale using vast amounts of fossil fuels.

Bottled water is hundreds or thousands of times more expensive than tap water.

The plastic bottles are made from toxic materials extracted from crude oil. Annually the number of plastic water bottles made use enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars for one year. The plastic itself amounts to 3 million tonnes a year, from water bottles alone.

In the U.S. this year, 102 billion water bottles have become landfill.

Adapted from an article by Gail Loader (2006) *Eco Magazine*, No. 4 Nov-Dec, 2006, 'Bottled Water Drains Our Natural Resources', P 7.