

IFAW Plastic Bag Pledge

Taking the Plastic Bag Pledge helps protect marine wildlife. Nearly 90% of the debris in our oceans is plastic.

Scientists believe that each year hundreds of thousands of seabirds and tens of thousands of marine mammals die after swallowing or being entangled in marine debris.

Plastic carrier bags are probably the worst example of an unnecessary disposable plastic product. Luckily they are also perhaps the easiest one to avoid –
BRING YOUR OWN REUSABLE BAG TO THE SHOP!

Plastic bag facts:

- Marine animals mistake plastic bags for food and swallow them, with painful and often fatal consequences.
- Plastic bags cause entanglement in marine animals, which restricts movement, leading to starvation, drowning or suffocation.
- A person uses a plastic carrier bag on average for only 12 minutes.
- A plastic bag can take between 400 to 1,000 years to break down in the environment.
- Hundreds of millions of plastic bags end up as litter each year. Four fifths of all plastic debris in the sea has been blown or washed there from land – such as beaches, riverbanks, streets and parks.
- The world uses over 1.2 trillion plastic bags a year. That averages about 300 bags for each adult on the planet. That comes out to over one million bags being used per minute.
- On average we only recycle one plastic bag in every 200 we use.

Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



 **IFAW.org**
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE
A Better World for Animals and People

Help Protect Marine Wildlife

IFAW Plastic Bag Pledge



Our oceans are awash with plastic debris that is killing wildlife in vast numbers – help end the plastic plague and sign the IFAW plastic bag pledge.

Those signing will refuse, reuse, reduce or recycle all plastic bags.

Tick box if you would like more information from IFAW

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Return your completed pledge form to: IFAW Animal Action Week Office, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7UD.