

# Not so fantastic – the marine plastic problem



Plastic takes **450 years** to fully break down. Say **YES** to a reusable water bottle, fabric shopping bags and alternative packaging.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2016 **6,000** volunteers cleaned over **300** beaches in the UK as part of **MCS BeachWatch**. **268,000** pieces of litter were collected.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Plastic in the ocean breaks into such **small segments** that pieces from a 1 litre bottle could end up on **every mile** of beach throughout the **world**.

**8 million tonnes** of plastic is dumped in the **oceans** every year.

**2050**

Scientists predict that by **2050** there will be more **plastic** than **fish** in the sea.

**80%** of marine litter comes from **land sources**.



**Sea turtles** and other marine animals **mistake** plastic for food. This causes blockages in their system and eventual **death**. We can help by using **fabric** shopping bags.



1 tube of exfoliating face wash or whitening toothpaste can contain **300,000** plastic microbeads.

There are more particles of **microplastic** in the ocean than **stars** in the **Milky Way**.

Scientists are developing innovative solutions. The **Ocean Clean Up** aims to clear **50%** of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in **5 years**.

## WHAT IS THE DEEP DOING?

- We support the **#oneless** campaign and no longer sell water in plastic bottles
- We use paper and fabric **carrier bags**
  - Our café uses **Vegware** cups and packaging which is made from **100% compostable** plant material
  - We have joined **Aquariums Against Marine Litter** and have our own marine plastic display to highlight the threat
  - We take part in **MCS BeachWatch**, organising beach cleans in our local area
  - We have started a campaign with Radio Humber-side to encourage Hull's cafés and restaurants to ditch **plastic straws** **#HullNoPlasticStraws**

Find out more at [www.thedeep.co.uk/conservation](http://www.thedeep.co.uk/conservation)

## DID YOU KNOW?

**70%** of Oxygen that humans breathe comes from **marine plants**. They are worth saving!

Worldwide, over **500 million** plastic bottles are used every year. Find out how you can support **#oneless** and show your commitment to reducing single use plastic bottles at: [onelessbottle.org](http://onelessbottle.org)