

Additional Q&A for Freshwater Science: Why Environmentally Conscious Shoppers Don't Bring Reusable Bags

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1. How does the United States compare to Europe in sustainable packaging and mandating the end of single use plastic?

The US is farther behind than Europe. Europe already has lots of legislation in place for plastics reduction and packaging reduction. The US is in the process of voting on the Break Free From Plastic Act. You can learn more at breakfreefromplastic.org/pollution-act

2. What impact has plastic had on Lake Erie specifically?

More information on this topic is available at ohioseagrant.osu.edu/news/calendar/2021/04/09/5ptr5/plastic-pollution-webinar.

3. What are the best kind of bags to use to collect household trash?

The best bag to use is whichever you prefer. Honestly there is no great trash bag alternative. Do not waste money on buying a biodegradable bag because that is pointless since it is going to landfill. I just encourage you to use as few bags as you can per week and try to reduce what you send to landfill through reusable items or composting.

4. Can you talk more about the barriers research that was done prior to determining reminders as the strategy to use?

More information about this topic is available at ohioseagrant.osu.edu/products/r6nv/needs-assessment-report-barriers-amp-benefits-to-desired-behaviors-for-single-use-plastic-items-in-northeast-ohio-s-lake-erie-basin or ohioseagrant.osu.edu/p/r6nv (direct PDF download).

5. I had a similar approach to looking at preemptive legislation on bag bans and it's great that this information is readily available. I'm very curious to hear about the outcome of your analyses.

More information is available for download: [Memorandum of Law: Plastic Legislation](#) (direct PDF download) and [Memorandum of Law: Plastic Bag Legislation](#) (direct PDF download).