



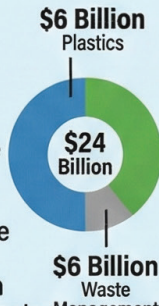
Know The Facts: Impacts of Single-Use Plastics

Financial Bottom Line Impacts



Hidden Costs of Disposables:

U.S. businesses in the food service sector spend \$24 billion annually on single-use plastics, with an additional \$6 billion in waste management costs.



Consumer Preferences Shifting:

84% of consumers are willing to switch brands to support companies offering sustainable packaging options.

84%

16%



What It Means for Businesses:

Transitioning to sustainable alternatives reduces costs, meets consumer expectations, and improves long-term profitability.

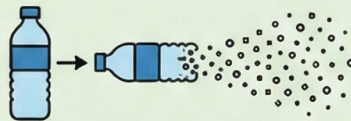
According to Upstream Solutions Reuse wins report showcasing Rethink Disposable case studies, businesses save on average **between \$3,000-\$22,000** per year when switching from single-use to reusable.

Environmental Impacts



Plastic Waste Crisis:

At least 14 million tons of plastic enter oceans annually, and the U.S. contributes 27 million tons to landfills each year.



Longevity of Plastic Pollution:

Disposable plastics take up to 1,000 years to degrade, releasing microplastics that harm ecosystems and contaminate natural resources.



Climate Implications:

Plastic production and waste generate significant greenhouse gases, equivalent to running 295 new 500-megawatt coal-fired power plants, by 2030 if trends continue.

What It Means for Businesses:

Adopting sustainable packaging can reduce environmental harm and position your business as a leader in sustainability.

Health Impacts



Health Risks for Consumers:

Microplastics, found in 93% of bottled water, are linked to hormonal imbalances, fertility issues, and even cancer.



Community Impact:

Plastic pollution disproportionately affects underserved communities. For example, Chester, PA, experiences severe health risks from pollution due to plastic waste incineration.



What It Means for Businesses:

Sustainable practices help protect public health and align your brand with equity and social responsibility.



Key Takeaway: Switching away from single-use plastics isn't just good for the environment—it's essential for your business.

With rising consumer demand for sustainable practices, increasing health concerns about microplastics, and significant cost-saving opportunities, adopting eco-friendly packaging can boost your brand, protect your reputation, and improve your bottom line. Businesses that act now will position themselves as leaders in sustainability while contributing to public health and environmental justice.