



PLASTIC STRAWS SUCK



San Francisco
Chapter

DID YOU KNOW?

Americans use 500 million drinking straws every day

Plastic straws are made of polypropylene, a petroleum bi-product & the same stuff that fuels our vehicles

Plastic straws have been among the top 10 items found at beach clean ups for more than 20 years

90% of all trash floating in the world's oceans is comprised of plastic

JOIN THE MOVEMENT AND SAVE

Businesses can **save hundreds of dollars every month** by switching to paper straws while **increasing their compost and eliminating landfill.**

- Only provide a straw upon request
- Don't use single-use plastic straws
- Offer reusable metal, glass or paper straws when requested

ONGOING SAVINGS: 50% OFF at Aardvark Paper Straws, www.aardvarkstraws.com. Aardvark uses FDA approved inks, paper from sustainable forests, they won't fall apart in your drink, and are made in the USA.






DISCOUNT CODE: SURFRIDER50

CASE STUDY

Pagan Idol, a bar in the San Francisco financial district, has saved \$900 a month by diverting most of their waste to compost. They now save more than \$10,000 off their yearly Recology bill by reducing landfill waste.

WHAT ABOUT COMPOSTABLE PLASTIC (PLA)?

Five simple truths about “PLA, bioplastics and earth friendly/plant based” plastic:

-  Compostable plastic isn't recyclable and actually contaminates the other plastics that are recyclable.
-  Compostable plastic, when introduced into oceans and waterways, can potentially endanger or kill marine wildlife. Humans are then put at risk of the deadly toxins in plastics when they become concentrated in seafood.
-  Compostable plastics will only break down in an industrial composting facility where all oxygen is removed and temperatures are constantly above 140° F for at least 10 days. There are only a few facilities in the world that currently exist. It becomes a toxic residue of “plastic soup” - harmful micro-particles that pollute the environment and threaten wildlife.
-  Compostable plastics cannot be composted at home (see above).
-  Realistically, compostable plastics just end up in the landfill, where it is impossible for them to decompose or biodegrade. Even if they do, it could take 1,000s of years.



**San Francisco
Chapter**

To learn more about Plastic Straws Suck visit us at www.sf.surfrider.org or email us at RAP@sf.surfrider.org