



# Disposable Water Bottles

Buying **BOTTLED WATER** instead of drinking tap water is becoming increasingly popular in Australia; however, there is no evidence to show that bottled water is any healthier or better – just costlier! In fact, water can cost twice as much as petrol when compared litre to litre.



## Why we should recycle

- Most bottled water is packaged in polyethylene terephthalate (PET), which is derived from crude oil and produces 3 tonnes of carbon dioxide for every tonne of PET produced.
- Plastic bottles can take anywhere from 400–1000 years to break down. If not recycled, they can end up in oceans where they are mistaken for food and kill marine life.
- When you pay for bottled water, 90% of the cost is attributed to the production of the bottle, lid and label.
- 3 litres of water are needed to make a 1 litre plastic water bottle.
- Water bottles made with PET should not be reused because over time they increase levels of harmful bacteria into the liquid.

## How recycling helps

- Reusable bottles can be made of steel, reusable plastic and some types of aluminium. This will save you money and keep waste out of landfill.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Purchase a reusable water bottle.
- Recycle your water bottles.
- **Fill your water bottle at potable water taps and water refill stations around UQ campuses.**



**Sustainability**

CRICOS Provider No 00025B (98367 September14)

The Sustainability Office  
Property and Facilities Division  
The University of Queensland  
Brisbane Qld 4072 Australia

T 07 3365 1587 or 07 3365 2076  
F 07 3365 1555  
E [sustainability@uq.edu.au](mailto:sustainability@uq.edu.au)  
W [www.uq.edu.au/sustainability](http://www.uq.edu.au/sustainability)



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA