



# 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.
- Bottled water requires up to 2000 times more energy to produce than tap water.
- Water bottles made with PET should not be reused because over time they can leach harmful compounds such as BPA and phthalates 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.**



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