



The Impact of Plastics on the Environment and the Great Lakes



ALLIANCE *for the*
GREAT LAKES



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GREAT LAKES

Mission

To conserve and restore the world's largest freshwater resource using policy, education and local efforts, ensuring a healthy Great Lakes and clean water for generations of people and wildlife.

Supporters

More than 15,000 supporters throughout the region back the Alliance's efforts in a variety of ways.

THE GREAT LAKES ARE
THE LARGEST
SURFACE FRESHWATER SYSTEM
IN THE WORLD



...including **18%** of the world's supply.

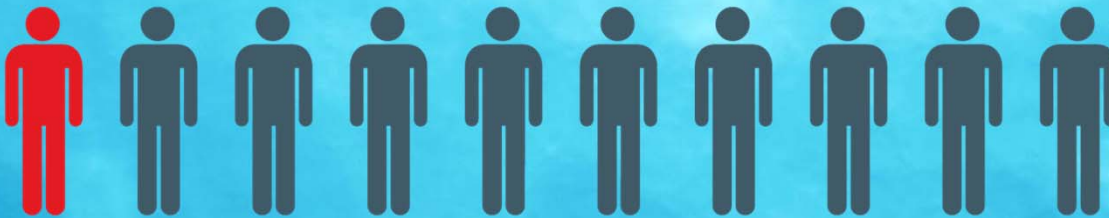
THE
GREAT
LAKES
HOLD
5,500
CUBIC
MILES

...including **90%** of
North America's supply.



CREDIT: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

THE GREAT LAKES PROVIDE DRINKING WATER TO OVER **40 MILLION** PEOPLE



...including **1 in 10** Americans



...and **1 in 4** Canadians.

OVERVIEW

How Much Plastic Pollution is Out There?

- Research and Data on Plastic Pollution in the Great Lakes

So What?

- Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Our Environment and Communities

What Can We Do?

- Methods of Reducing Plastic Pollution in the Great Lakes

PLASTIC POLLUTION



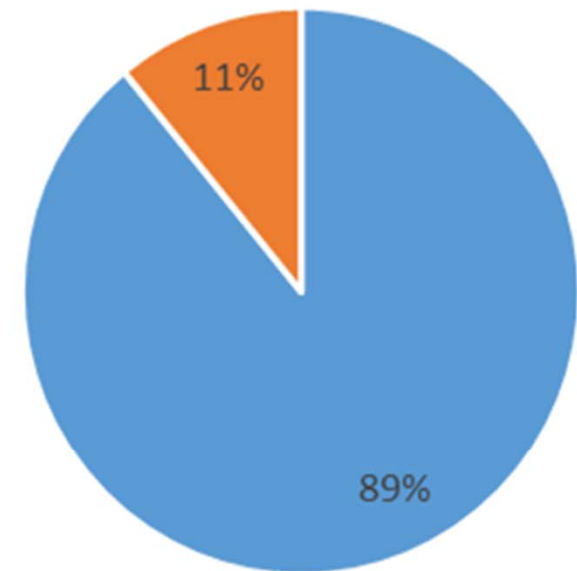
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OTHER

PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES



Partially or Fully Plastic Items



■ % Plastic ■ % Other

PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES



PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES

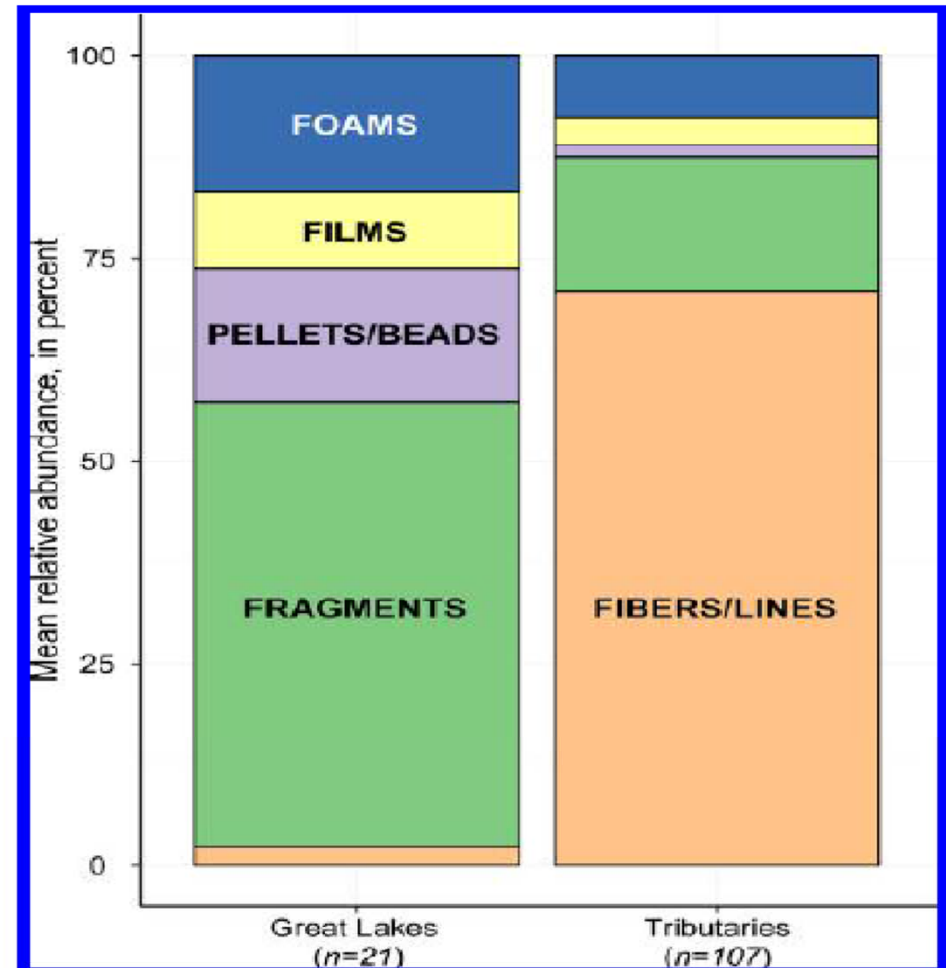


Figure 5. Mean relative abundances of different plastic particle types in the Great Lakes compared with tributaries. Great Lakes data are from Eriksen et al.³⁰

PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES

R·I·T Rochester Institute of Technology Directories Search RIT

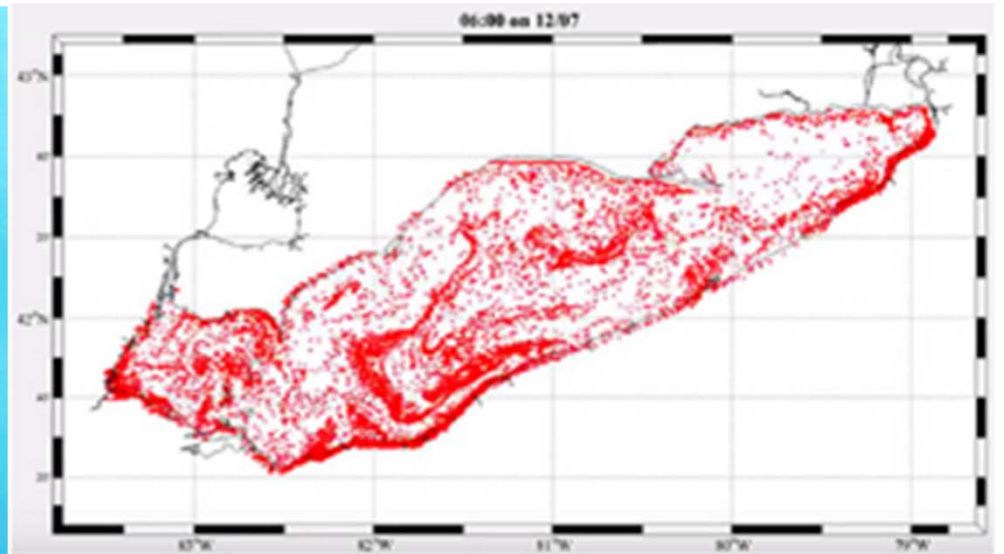
UNIVERSITY NEWS

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RIT researchers estimate 10,000 metric tons of plastic enter Great Lakes every year
Study inventories movement of plastic and microplastic debris throughout lake system



SO WHAT?



SO WHAT?



SO WHAT?



9 TIPS FOR LIVING WITH LESS PLASTIC



1

Bring your own shopping bag



2

Carry a reusable water bottle



3

Bring your own cup



4

Pack your lunch in reusable containers



5

Say no to disposable straws & cutlery



6

Skip the plastic produce bags



7

Slow down and dine in



8

Store leftovers in glass jars



9

Share these tips with your friends

LESS PLASTIC.

REFUSE SINGLE USE # CHOOSE REUSABLES

WWW.LESSPLASTIC.CO.UK

WHAT CAN WE DO? COLLECTION



WHAT CAN YOU DO? MANAGEMENT

Ballot Bin

£0 0 items



WHAT CAN WE DO? SOURCE REDUCTION

July 9, 2018 Coffee & Company

Starbucks to Eliminate Plastic Straws Globally by 2020

Delaware North is Saying No to Plastic Drinking Straws

The Buffalo-based Company Trying to Curb Plastic Waste



A NEW MORNING WITH SUSAN ROSE AND BRIAN MAZUROWSKI

APRIL 23, 2018 - 11:23 AM



9 TIPS FOR LIVING WITH LESS PLASTIC



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2 Carry a reusable water bottle



3 Bring your own cup



4 Pack your lunch in reusable containers



5 Say no to disposable straws & cutlery



6 Skip the plastic produce bags



7 Slow down and dine in



8 Store leftovers in glass jars



9 Share these tips with your friends

LESS PLASTIC.

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Plastic-Free Great Lakes

An Advocacy Toolkit to Make a Difference in Your Community



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Register Now for 2019
@greatlakesadopt.org**

- **Team Leads for Adopt-a-Beach (AAB)**
- **Volunteers for AAB**



**THANK
YOU!**



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