

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

Rise in Plastic Pollution Emphasizes Need to Reduce Single-Use Plastics

Egad! – Oceans could hold more plastic than fish by 2050, according to a report from the 5 Gyres Institute. Plastic pollution is rising at unprecedented levels, and without dramatic action, we could be swimming in plastic waste. *So what can be done?*



One positive step has been for individuals and communities to strive toward zero waste by rethinking our consumption habits and behaviors. The City of Gainesville enacted the **single-use plastic straw & stirrer ban** and **single-use plastic accessories by request-only ordinance** to tackle the very issue of plastic pollution.

Every plastic straw or plastic fork we can keep from entering our waterways does make a difference, and combined with the efforts of individuals from around the world, we might be able to lessen the tide of plastic waste.

For more information on the Gainesville Zero Waste Initiative, visit gainesvillefl.gov/ZeroWaste.

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