



# MY GREEN PLEDGES: BRING YOUR OWN

Green Tips - Mar 18

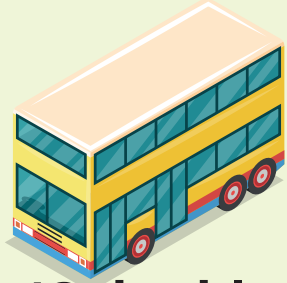


BRING YOUR OWN

## HOW MANY TONNES OF PLASTICS ARE DISPOSED OF TO LANDFILLS IN HONG KONG EVERY DAY? <sup>1</sup>



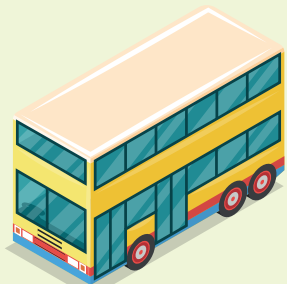
Plastic and polyfoam dining wares:  
**193 tonnes**



**13 double-decker buses**



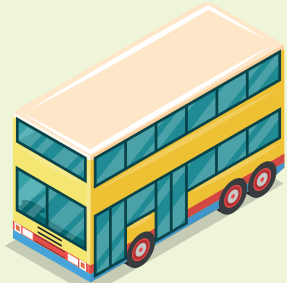
PET plastic bottles:  
**158 tonnes**



**11 double-decker buses**



Plastics bags:  
**690 tonnes**



**46 double-decker buses**

\*Assuming the weight of a double-decker bus is 15 tonnes.

## HOW MANY TONNES OF PLASTICS ARE THERE IN THE OCEANS?<sup>2</sup> HOW LONG WILL THEY STAY IN NATURE?<sup>3</sup>

A global study in 2015 estimated that

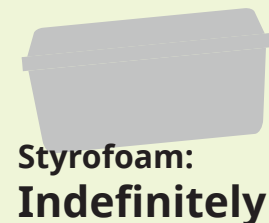
**~ 8 million metric tonnes**  
of plastic waste enter the oceans from land each year.



Plastic bottles:  
**Indefinitely**

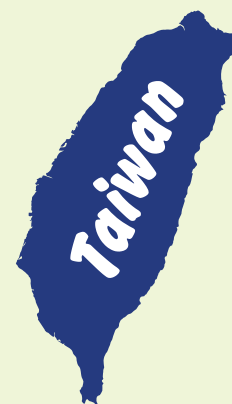


Plastic bags:  
**10-20 years**



Styrofoam:  
**Indefinitely**

## HOW ARE OTHER CITIES & COUNTRIES TACKLING THE PROBLEM?



In Taipei, bottled water and disposable utensils have been banned from elementary and junior high schools since 2016. Taiwan is planning a blanket ban on single-use plastic items including straws, cups and shopping bags by 2030.

France banned plastic bags in stores and supermarkets in 2016, and will ban non-biodegradable plastic plates, cups, and cutleries in 2020.



## OTHER LUNCHBOXES & MUGS CHOICES

**Foldable mug & lunchbox**



Photos: [www.organicwe.com](http://www.organicwe.com)

**Takes less space**

**Bamboo mug & lunchbox**



Photos:  
- [www.facebook.com/ECOFFEECUPASIA/](https://www.facebook.com/ECOFFEECUPASIA/)  
- [greenshop.hk](http://greenshop.hk)

**Light**

**Stylish**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?



**Stop using disposables  
& Start BYO today!**

Useful Links:



GreenMap@PolyU  
[goo.gl/YPxBxE](http://goo.gl/YPxBxE)



Go Cup  
[www.gocup.hk/](http://www.gocup.hk/)

### References:

- Environmental Protection Department (EPD). *Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong: Waste Statistics for 2016*. Available: <https://goo.gl/Lj5GmP>
- Jambeck, J. R. et al. *Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean*. *Science* 347, 768-771 (2015). Available: <https://goo.gl/4ZhvzN>
- National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. *How Long Will Litter Last?* Available: <https://goo.gl/MuiXLU>



PolyU Green Campus

