

## THE INFLUENCE OF PLASTIC WASTE ON HUMAN HEALTH

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Nobody can imagine our life without plastics nowadays. There are many advantages: it is very plastic, durable, resistant to humidity, has low thermal and electrical conductivity. Despite all the advantages of plastic products, human must be careful in using them. It is not only harmful to health, but also decomposes in the ground for about a hundred years.

Plastics has a great negative influence on the nature, and as a result – on people. We are suffering from carbon monoxide (from the burning of waste), and ending with the toxins in a plastic container for food that our bodies absorb.

Scientists have shown that toxins enter the body and accumulate there. They can not only cause a hormonal imbalance, various disturbances in metabolism, but also such terrible diseases as cancer, infertility, developmental delays and different kind of allergies.

Many environment protection organizations have been trying to pay the world's population attention on this issue. But the fact is that every year polyethylene kills thousands of animals, birds and marine mammals. A quarter of the entire world's oceans today is a dump, which is literally stuffed with waste plastic and packaging. North America is ranked as the largest plastics producing area (with 32% of the total production), Western Europe comes second (30%) and Asia ranks third (19%).

European countries started to refuse making plastic utensils. Paper replaces plastics in many cases. Special eco-bags were developed. Scientists have found two solutions: plastics wastes destroying by pyrolysis plants – remain ash weighing only 12% of the initial mass; and if the plastic is collected separately, it can be used as secondary raw material for the production of a variety of useful things - building materials, insulation materials, and synthetic fiber for clothing.

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