

Mill Valley **Prohibits** the Use of City Funds for Bottled Water.

5 Facts About Bottled Water

- 1** It's expensive. Up to 10,000 times more expensive than tap water!
- 2** It's often lower quality than tap water. Bottled water is regulated much less strictly than tap water, resulting in numerous recalls due to the presence of carcinogens, arsenic, bacteria and even parasites.
- 3** It's oil-intensive. 47 million gallons of oil are used to manufacture and transport plastic water bottles each year in the U.S., which creates one billion pounds of climate-changing carbon dioxide emissions.
- 4** It causes environmental problems. Plastic water bottles will never biodegrade. Instead, they just break into small plastic particles that can kill marine and other wildlife when they mistake those particles for food.
- 5** It causes health problems. Plastic water bottles in our landfills leak toxic chemicals like phthalates and Bisphenol-A (BPA) into our groundwater. Tests indicate that the contamination of our bodies by BPA can increase cancers and reproductive abnormalities

Alternatives to Bottled Water

Drink tap water! Tap water is often higher quality than bottled water and it's much cheaper. The Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) provides some of the highest quality water available in the U.S. And for those who are interested in even greater protection, under-sink or counter top water filters are the best and healthiest solution.

Bring your own bottle! Do your part to reduce plastic pollution by bringing your own reusable water bottle with you everywhere you go. Numerous brands of re-usable water bottles are available in local stores and on-line.

Make your events plastic-free! To reduce your event costs and help the environment at the same time, forget the bottled water. Just make sure water pitchers are on hand for your next event, and fill them with ice and high quality tap water. In promotional materials for your event, remind attendees to bring their own water bottles, and have durable glasses on hand for those who forget.

To find out more about the health and environmental impacts of bottled water, go to:

<http://www.allaboutwater.org/environment.html>

<http://tinyurl.com/4awh54>

For more information about Mill Valley's sustainability initiatives, contact Carol Misseldine, Sustainability Director, cmisseldine@cityofmillvalley.org.