



Reduce Harmful Single Use Plastics

Pledge Template

Research is increasingly showing the harmful effects of single-use plastic on human health and the environment—and its widespread use only adds to the problem. It is estimated that Canadians dispose of over **3 million tonnes of plastic waste** every year, less than 10% of which gets recycled. Our plastic waste is ending up in landfills where it takes thousands of years to decompose and is finding its way throughout the environment—into parks, beaches, waterways, lakes, and oceans. Plastic waste is having a detrimental effect on both land and aquatic systems and animals.

For this action, raise awareness, take action, and reduce the use of harmful single-use plastics such as plastic bags, straws, cutlery, plates, and beverage containers.

Personal pledges are a meaningful addition to a campaign—to engage the whole school in environmental action and deepen personal commitment to a cause. They can also provide an opportunity for learning and creativity.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Review the different pledge templates on the pages to follow. Select the pledges you would like to use for your campaign.
- Print or photocopy as many pledge templates as you require. Then, cut them out.
- Distribute pledges to members of your school community. You may distribute pledges in bundles to each classroom in your school. Alternatively, set-up a booth in a common area of your school where people can learn about the issue and then write a pledge.
- Aim to have your whole-school community write a personal pledge, based on the theme of the campaign.
- Encourage creativity by providing markers, pencil crayons, or crayons.
- Collect and display all pledges in a central area for the whole school to see.



TIP!

Print pledges on GOOS paper (paper that is Good On One Side) to reduce paper use.





