



**VOLUNTEER  
CLEANUP  
.ORG**

Albert Pallot Park, Miami, FL

# USA's 2024

## INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP RESULTS

|    |                                                                                       |         |                                    |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1  |    | 385,285 | Cigarette butts                    |
| 2  |    | 172,741 | Food wrappers (candy, chips, etc.) |
| 3  |    | 165,590 | Bottle caps (plastic)              |
| 4  |    | 99,687  | Beverage bottles (plastic)         |
| 5  |     | 93,564  | Other waste (metal, paper, etc.)   |
| 6  |  | 81,758  | Other plastic waste                |
| 7  |  | 64,456  | Beverage cans                      |
| 8  |  | 61,396  | Straws/stirrers                    |
| 9  |  | 58,029  | Bottle caps (metal)                |
| 10 |   | 54,611  | Other bags (plastic)               |

 119,535

trash bags filled

 2,524,521

items collected

 2,390,706

pounds of  
debris removed

 9,533

miles

**VOLUNTEER  
CLEANUP  
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Volunteers cleaning up our neighborhoods, shorelines

**Join a  
Cleanup**

**Host a  
Cleanup**

**Sign  
Notifi**

[VolunteerCleanup.org](http://VolunteerCleanup.org) | [info@VolunteerCleanup.org](mailto:info@VolunteerCleanup.org)



LARGER PLASTIC PRODUCTS



UV

WAVE ACTION

CLOTHING



FIBRES



TIRES



PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS



Toothpaste, shower gel, facewash

MICROBEADS



MICROPLASTIC

5mm

# Storm Drains lead to Waterways





**YOU SEE THE DIFFERENCE.  
A TURTLE DOES NOT.**





An albatross on an uninhabited island in the Pacific - Chris Jordan

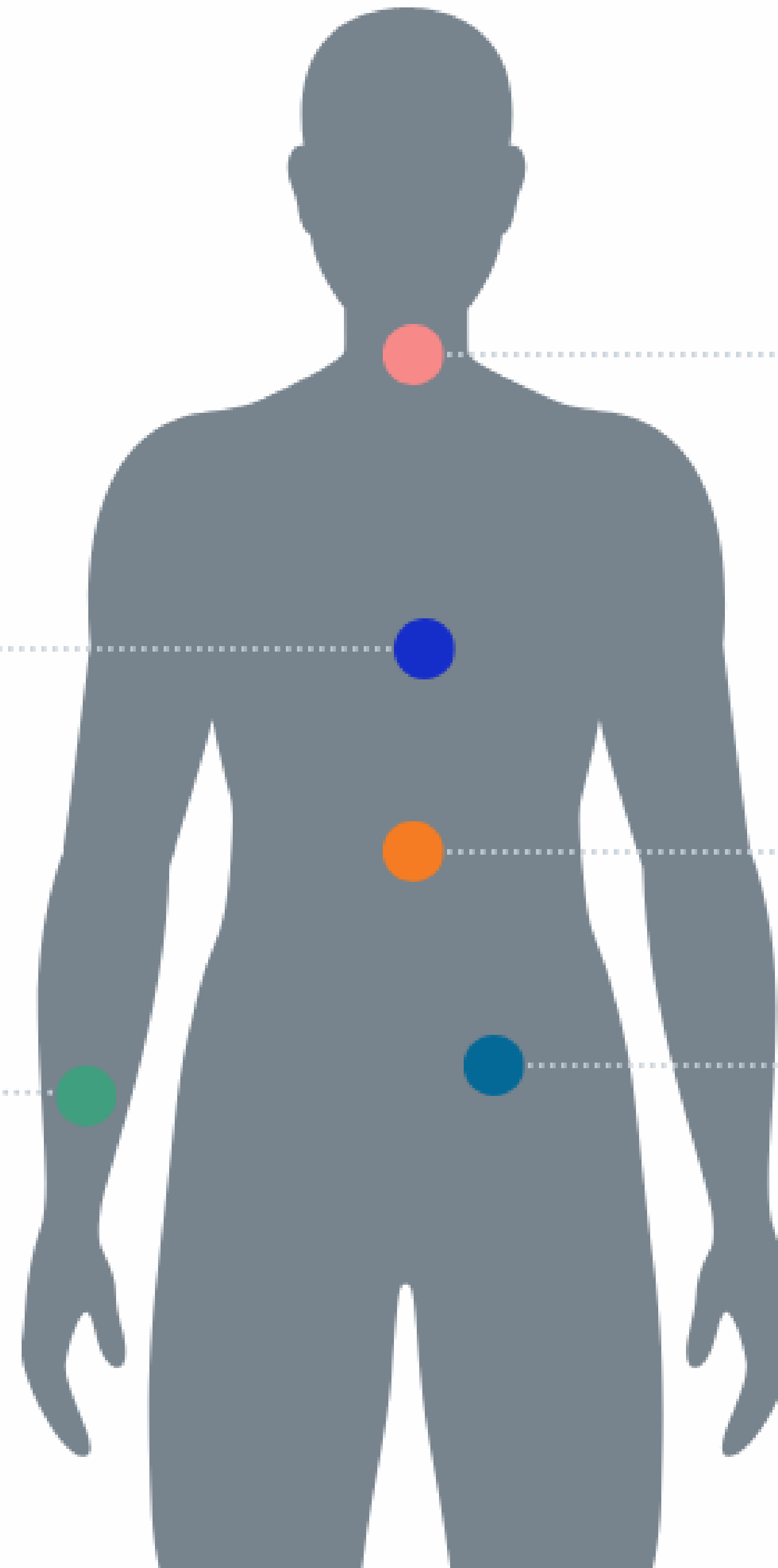
# PLASTIC

## EFFECTS ON HUMAN HEALTH

**Cancer, infertility,  
birth defects,  
declining sperm  
count, inflammation**

**Breathing difficulties,  
asthma, respiratory/lung  
problems**

**Skin issues  
(rashes,  
allergies)**



**Thyroid (hormonal)  
disruption, coughing,  
swelling of throat**

**Liver dysfunction**

**Gastrointestinal  
problems (diarrhea,  
vomiting, indigestion,  
stomach ache)**



Annually, our oceans generate  
**\$777 billion** in economic activity

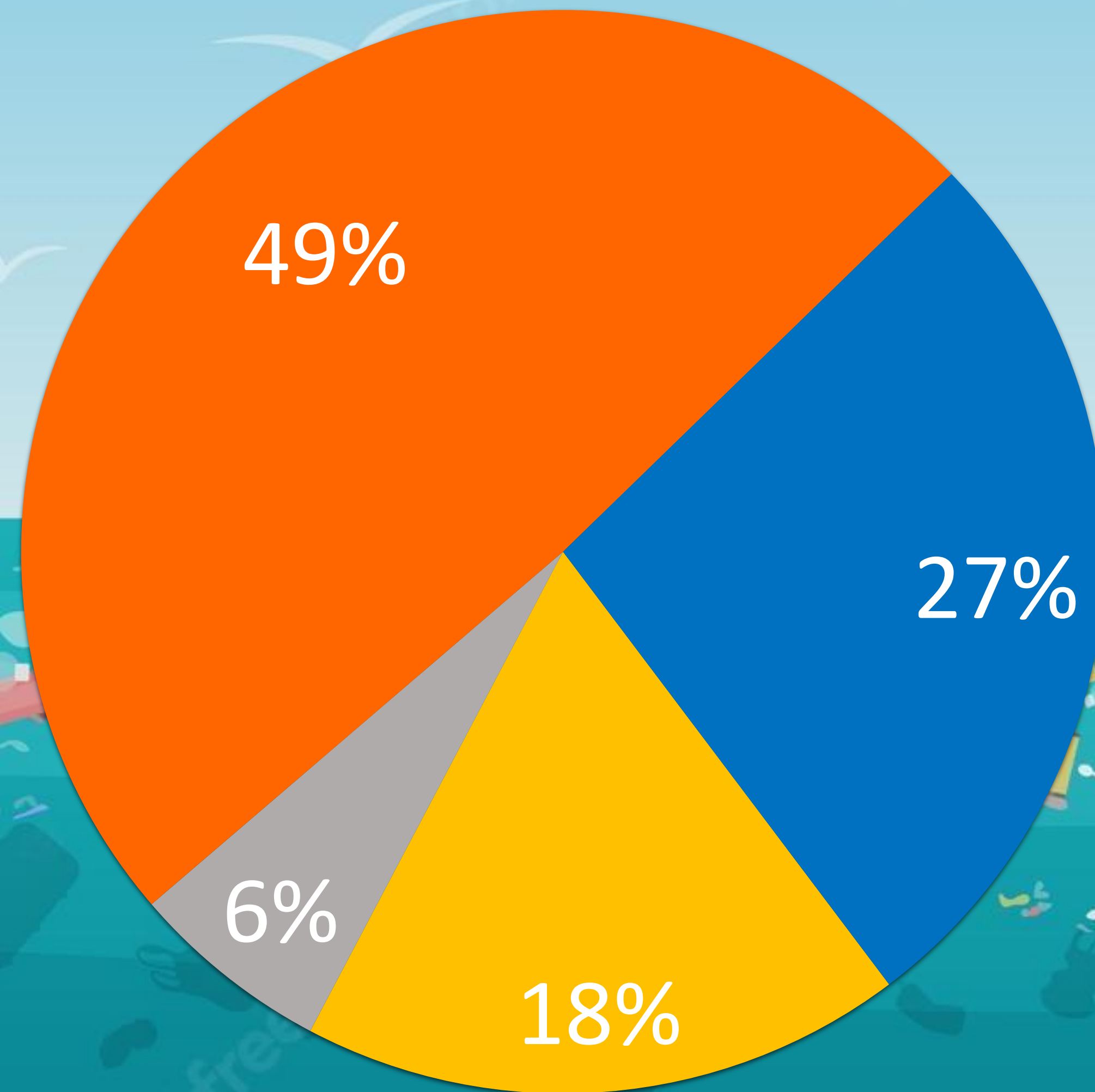


# Marine Debris Statistics

## Almost 50% are Single-Use Plastics

Single-Use  
Plastics

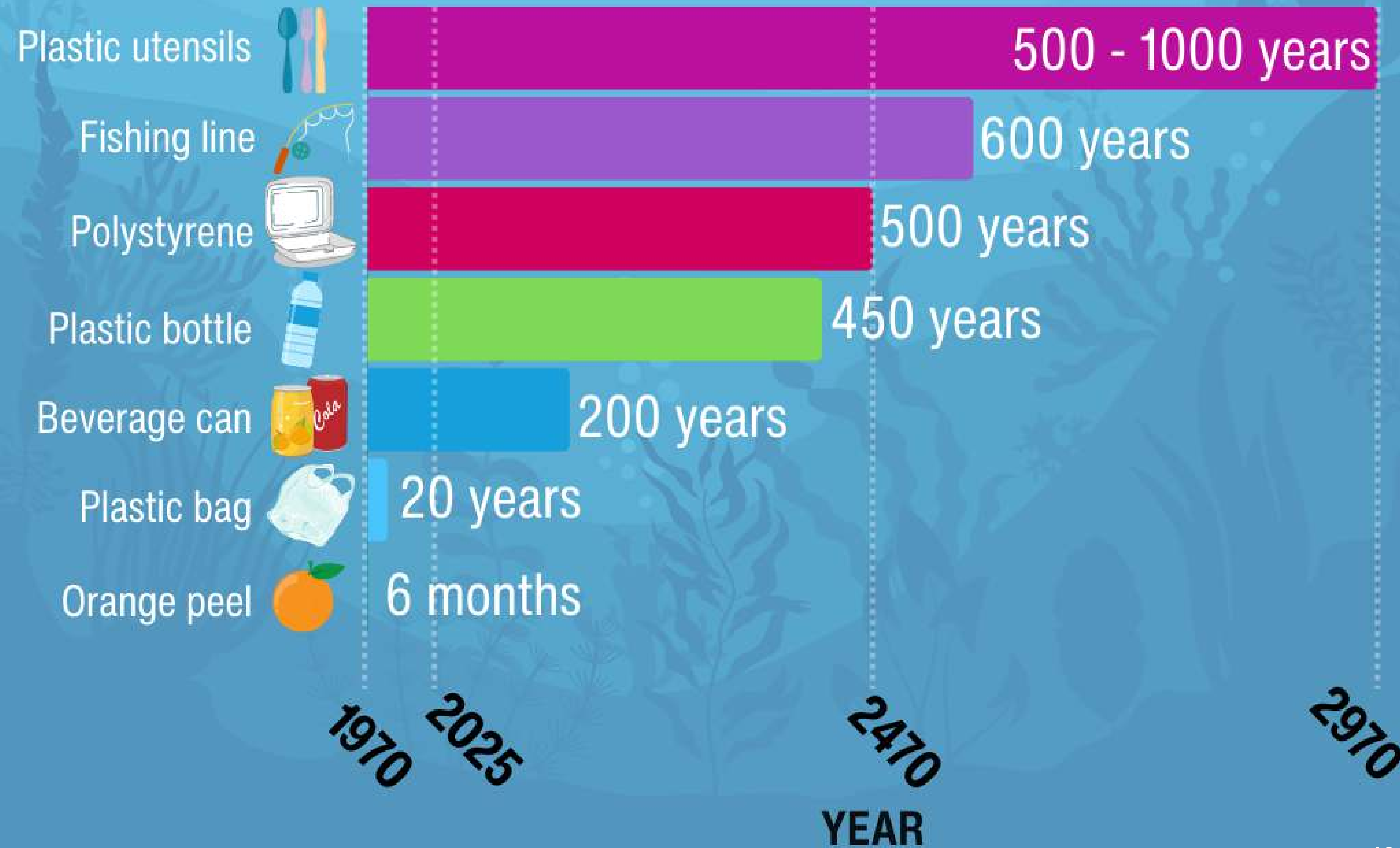
Fishing  
Gear



Other

Non-Plastic

# HOW LONG IT TAKES TO BREAK DOWN



AS OF 2023, NEARLY

**9 BILLION TONS**

OF PLASTIC WASTE HAVE BEEN GENERATED.



**9% WAS RECYCLED**



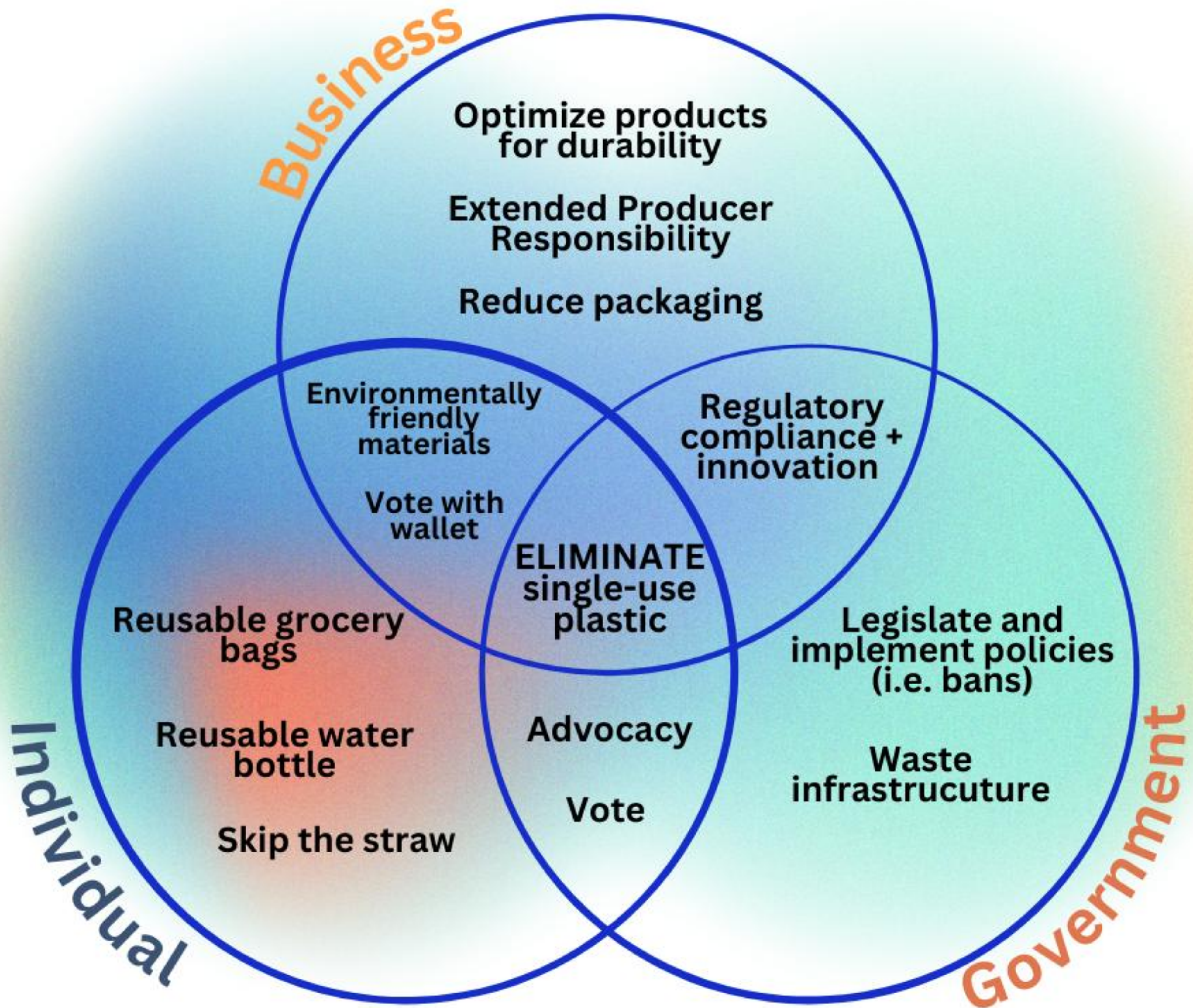
**12% INCINERATED**

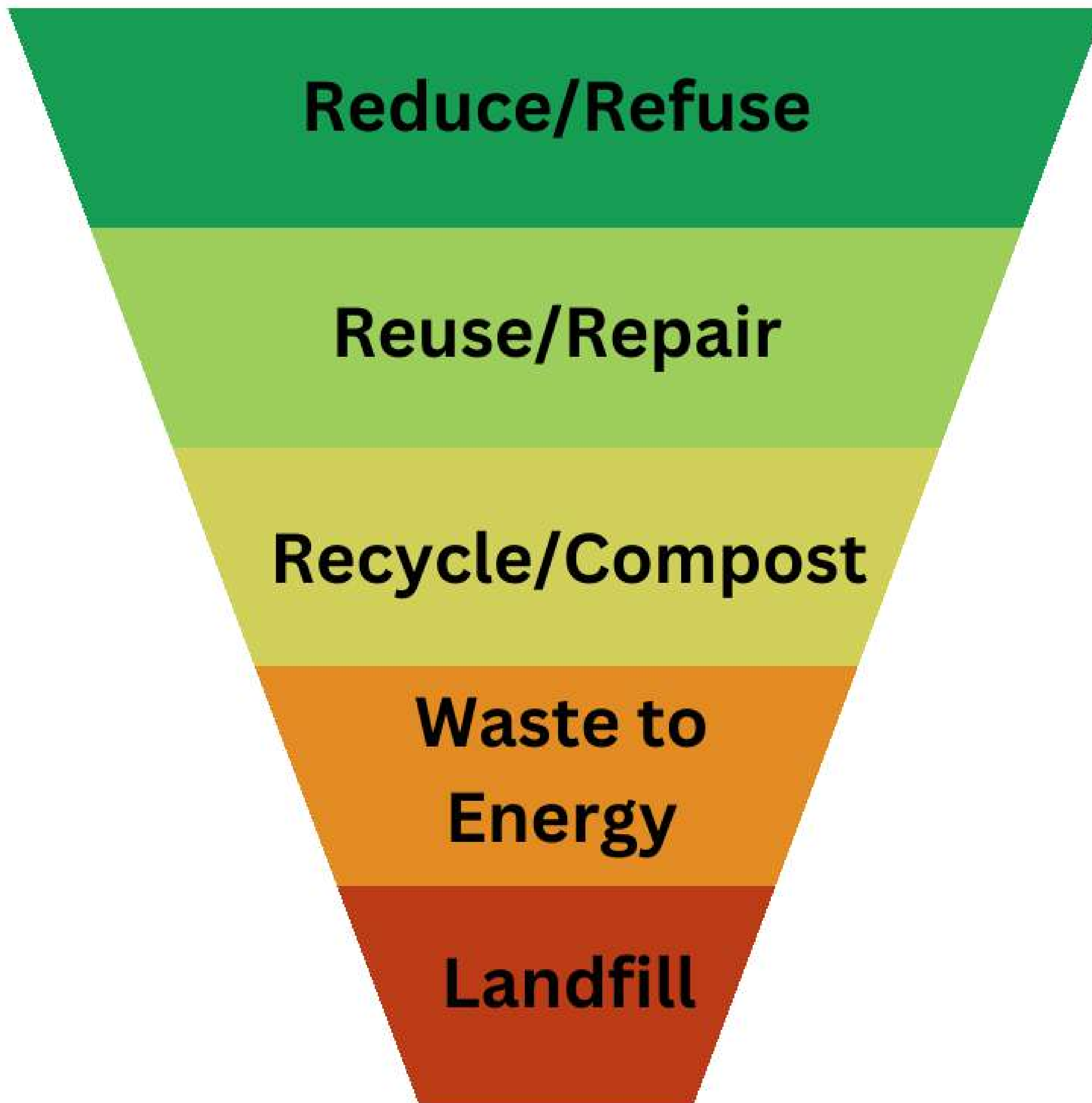


**79% IN LANDFILLS OR THE  
ENVIRONMENT**

**Every piece of plastic ever created is still  
on the planet unless it was incinerated**

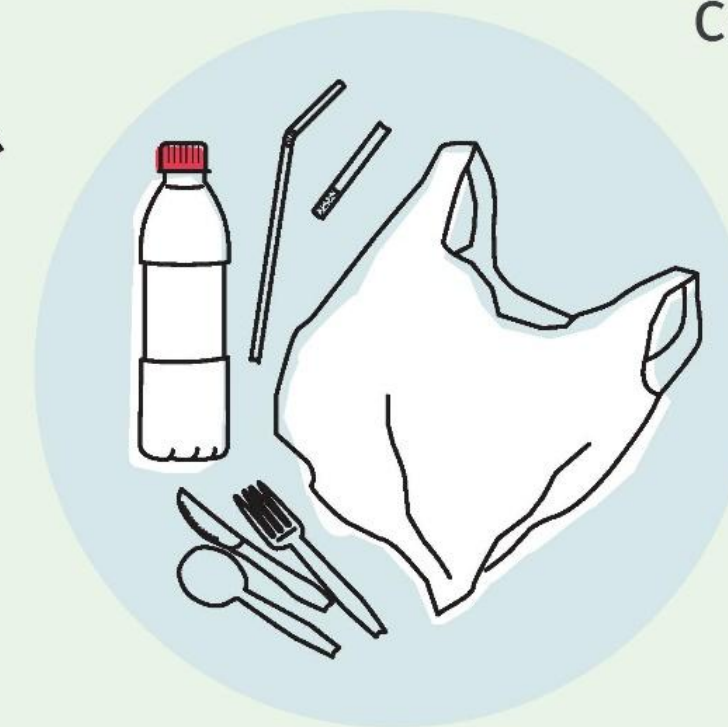
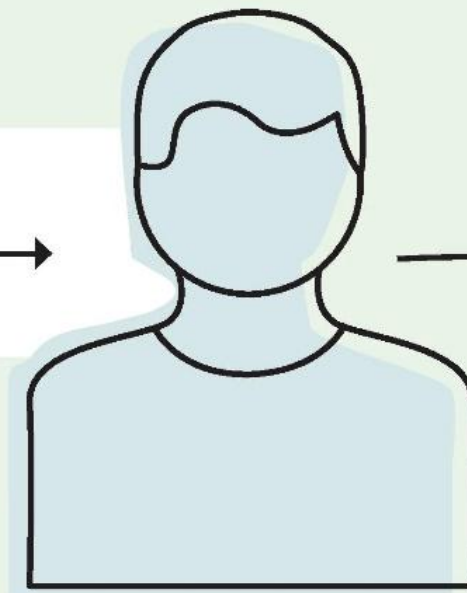






# By 2050, there'll be more plastic in our oceans than fish.

It starts with your choices →



Single-use plastics  
can last up to 450 years

Street litter goes  
into storm drains

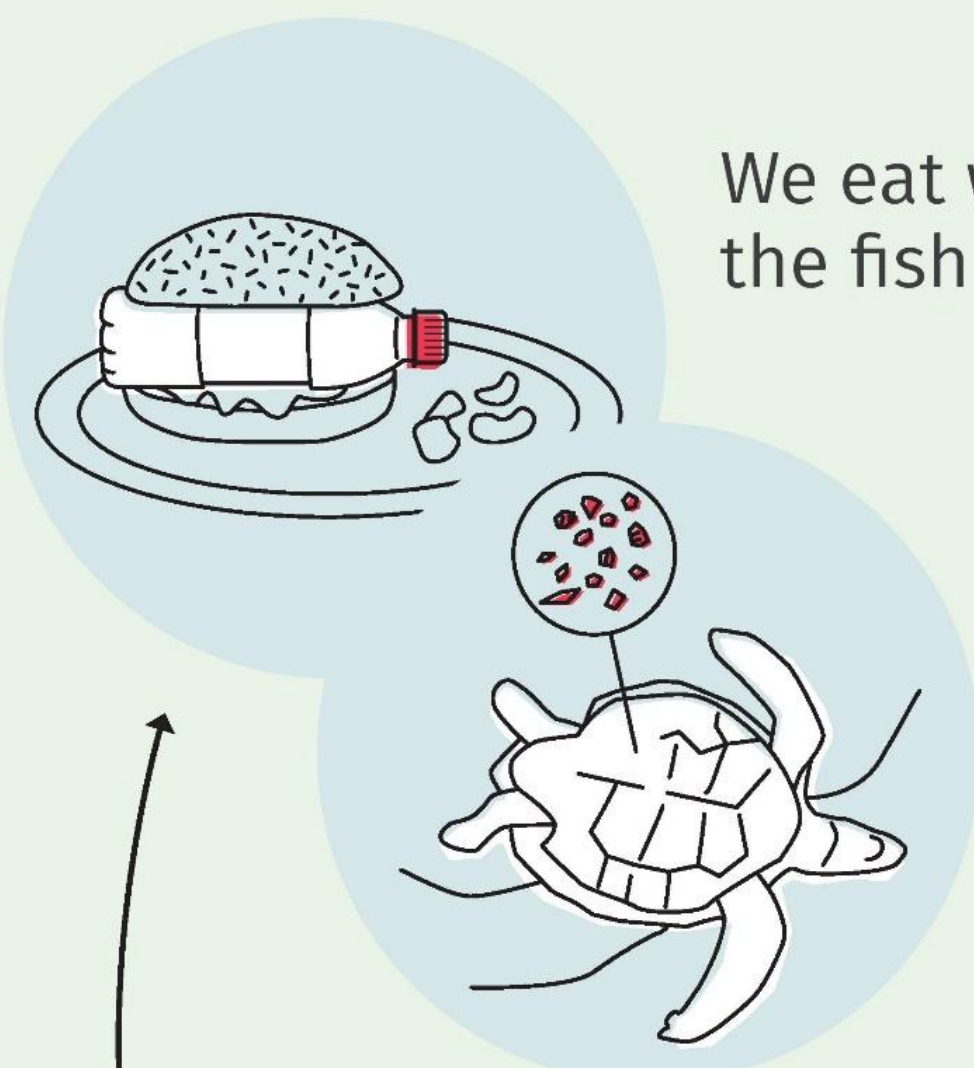


You can be part of the solution.



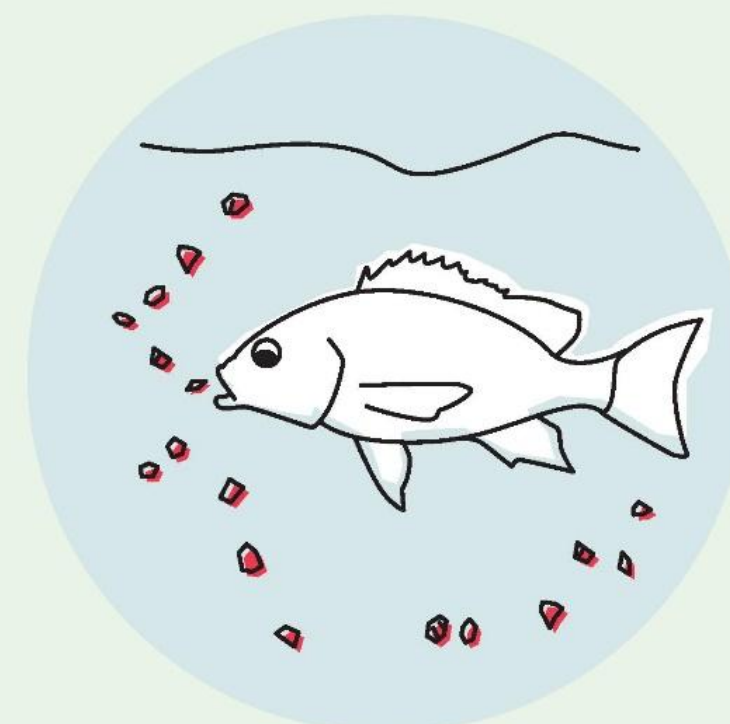
1. Refuse & reduce single-use plastics
2. Dispose of waste properly
3. Join or host a cleanup

[www.volunteercleanup.org](http://www.volunteercleanup.org)

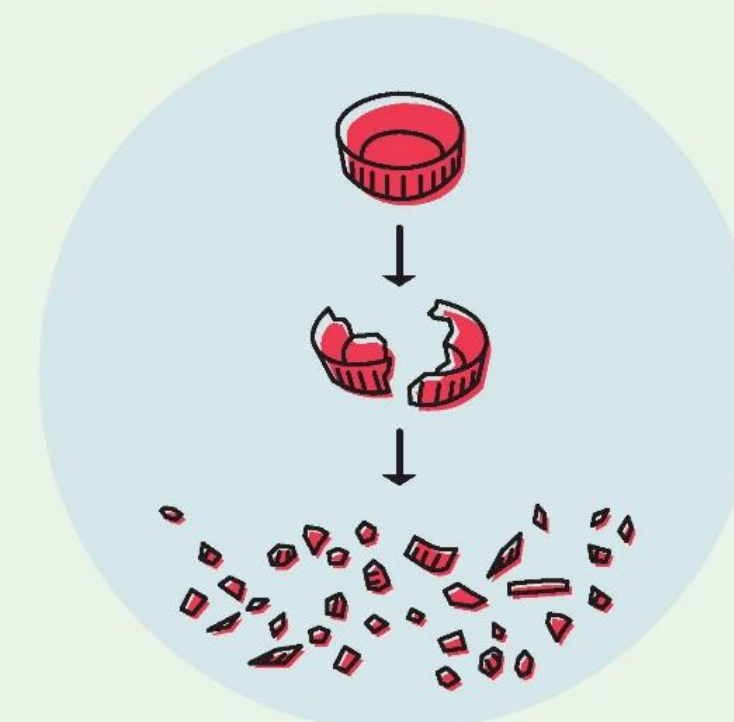


We eat what  
the fish eats

Plastic gets stuck in  
animals' stomachs  
and kills them



Sea life mistakes  
plastics for food



Over time, plastic  
breaks up into smaller  
pieces (microplastics)



Storm drains  
lead to the ocean

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