



“Our city is in a crisis of plastic production”

- Harvey Epstein, Assemblymember and Member-Elect City Council

Beyond Plastics

Manhattan Community Board 8

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BEYOND PLASTICS

Plastics Are Made From Chemicals and Fossil Fuels



Fossil fuels are: coal,
oil and gas.



16,000+ different
chemicals are used
to make plastics

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Plastics are hard to recycle

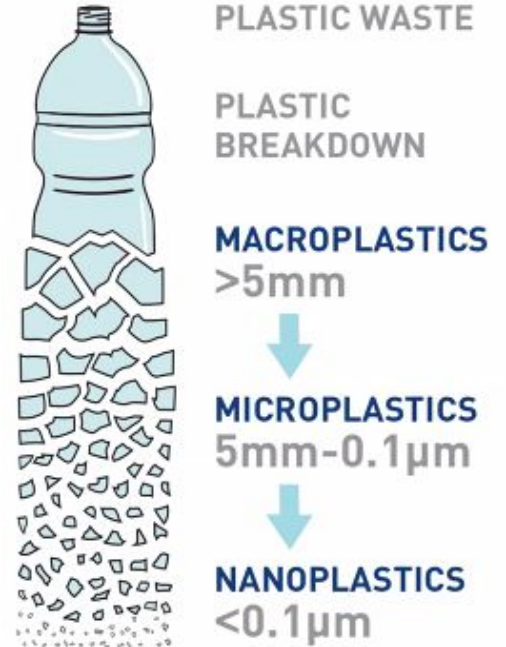
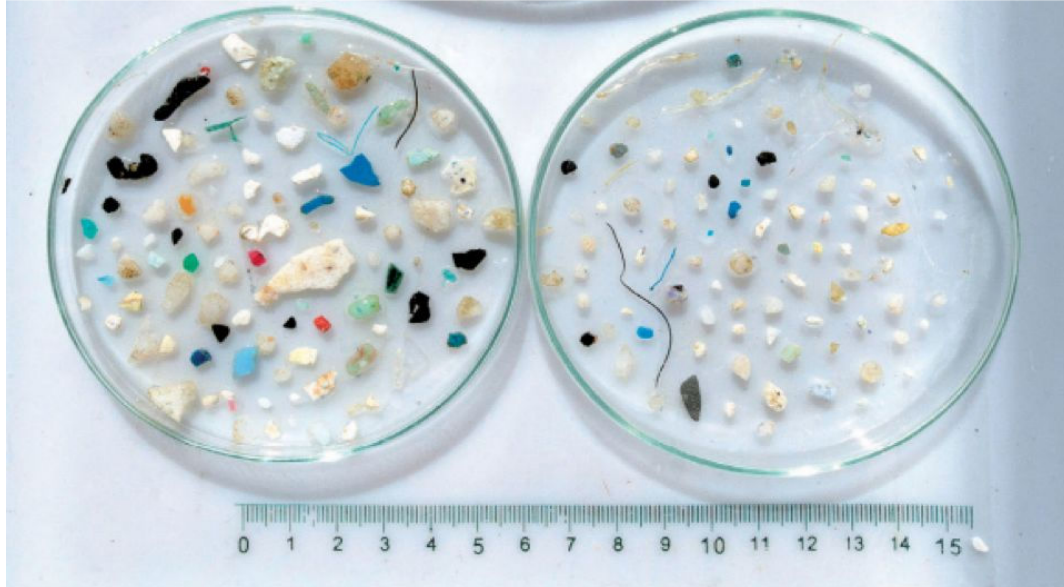
- Dealing with numerous components, almost impossible to design an effective system
- Nearly half of the plastic produced every year is for single-use packaging
- **Recycling plastic is ineffective: the US national recycling rate is less than 6%**



15 million tons of
plastics enter our
oceans every year.



Plastics Don't Break Down... they break UP!

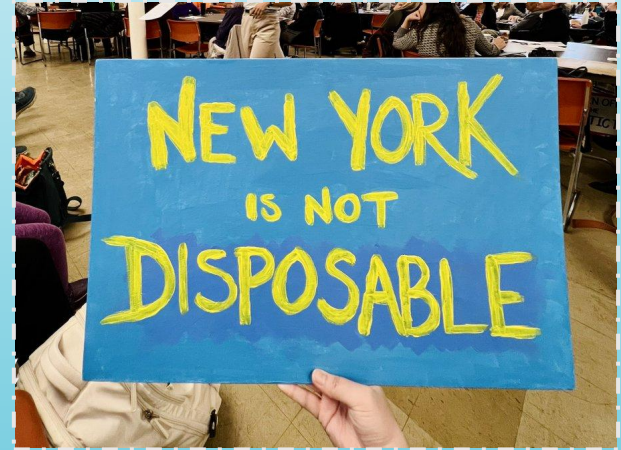


<https://www.uxo.org/story/202207/plastic-pollution-0100>

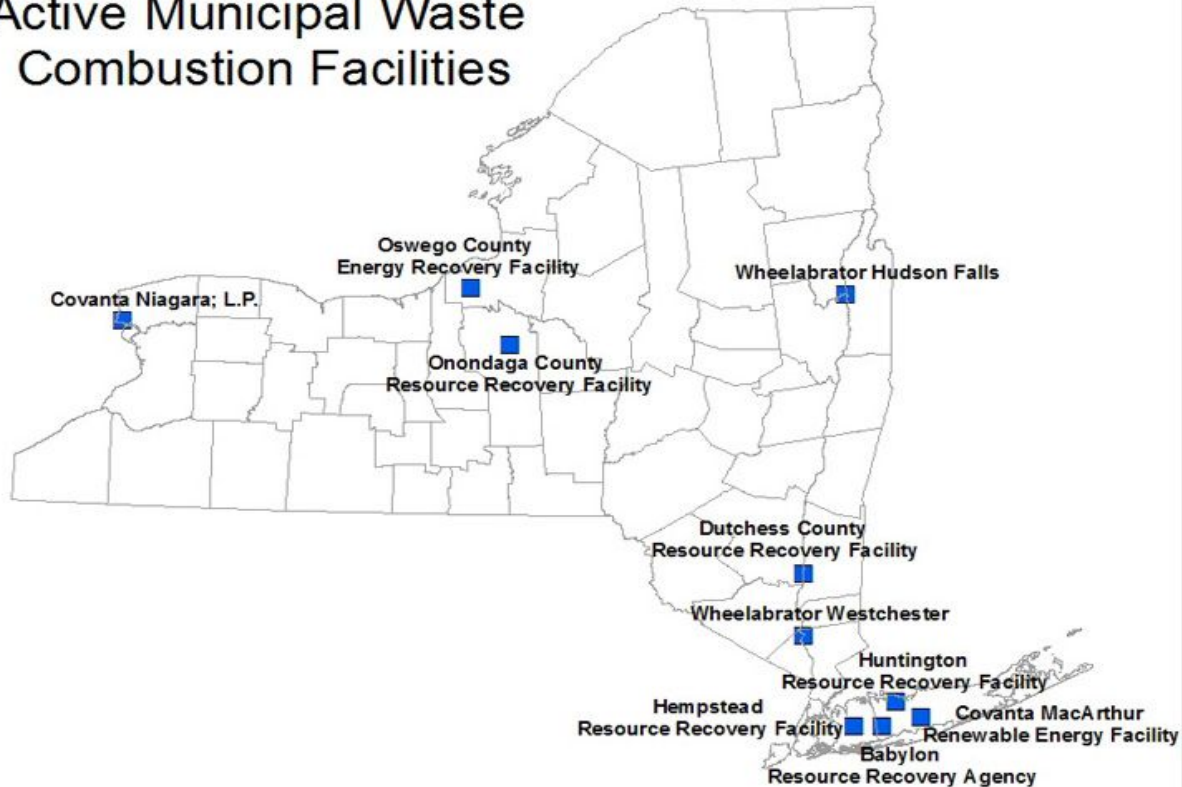
***at less than 1,000 MM they can enter the bloodstream.**

NYC Waste Stream

- NYC spends half a billion a year on waste exports
- Plastics and packaging make up 40% of the NYC waste stream
- Waste transfer stations are located throughout the City, lots of packaging = lots of truck traffic and emissions



Active Municipal Waste Combustion Facilities



Environmental justice is a movement rooted in combating the racist and unjust distribution of environmental hazards.

All 10 incinerators are located in Environmental Justice communities.

EJ and frontline communities face **higher rates of cancer, asthma, childhood leukemia, low birth weight, and other serious health issues**

NY State is #1 for # of waste incinerators in the nation



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**NYS PACKAGING REDUCTION and
RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE
ACT
S1464(Harkcham)/A1749(Glick)**

aka as “PRRIA”....



BEYOND PLASTICS

New York's Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act (PRRIA)

Senate Bill 1464, sponsored by Senator Pete Harckham (Westchester)
Assembly Bill 1749, sponsored by Assemblymember Deborah Glick (Manhattan)

Establishes a statewide Extended Producer Responsibility program for almost all packaging.

- Reduces plastic packaging by 30% in 12 years
- The remaining packaging must be recycled or reused effectively (75% rate)
- Makes companies pay municipalities for waste management of packaging
- Reduces Toxic Chemicals = Protections for Communities and Consumers

1. Reduces Plastic Use + Production

Any Company that grosses >\$5million in sales or produces >2 tons of packaging annually must:

- Reduce plastic packaging by 30% over 12 years
 - This requirement kicks in incrementally
 - Reusable, refillable packaging is encouraged
- Reduce all secondary packaging by 50%
- Require 75% of the remaining packaging to be **reused and/or recycled** by 2052 with a minimum 20% being reused

2. Saves Taxpayers \$\$

- Companies covered under the law will pay fees to cover the waste management of their packaging



Recyclers will no longer be inundated with worthless plastic waste!



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- 2025 report found that in the first 10 years, this bill will save the state \$1.3 billion, with NYC saving \$818 million
- Consumer Reports found that EPR bills do not increase costs for consumers
- Packaging makes up less than 2% of the cost of an item (USDA)





3. Reduces Toxic Chemicals

The bill prohibits the worst toxic chemicals from packaging:

- (A) ORTHO-PHTHALATES;
- (B) BISPENOLS;
- (C) PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS);
- (D) HEAVY METALS AND COMPOUNDS, INCLUDING LEAD, HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM, CADMIUM, AND MERCURY;
- (E) BENZOPHENONE AND ITS DERIVATIVES;
- (F) HALOGENATED FLAME RETARDANTS;
- (G) PERCHLORATE;
- (H) FORMALDEHYDE;
- (I) TOLUENE;
- (J) ANTIMONY AND COMPOUNDS;
- (K) UV 328 (2-(2H-BENZOTRIAZOL-2-YL)-4,6-DI-TERT-PENTYLPHENOL);
- (L) POLYVINYL CHLORIDE, INCLUDING POLYVINYLIDENE CHLORIDE;
- (M) POLYSTYRENE; OR
- (N) POLYCARBONATE.

4. Strong Definition of Recycling

Companies will not be able to count any incineration or “chemical recycling” of packaging to count towards recycling.

This means that when you are told something is being recycled, it actually is.



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EXEMPTIONS TO PRRIA

- Companies that gross less than \$5 million in sales — this means 95% of farms are exempt.
- Agricultural cooperatives with fewer than 50 employees that produce dairy products;
- Infant formula, medical foods;
- Products regulated as drugs, medical devices, or dietary supplements by federal law;
- Animal biologics, including vaccines;
- Pesticide packaging;
- Packaging used to contain hazardous or flammable products;
- Architectural paint containers; and
- Beverage containers that have a deposit and are covered by the Returnable Container Deposit Law (Bottle Bill).

Who is supporting this bill...

- 73% of New Yorkers (Siena Poll 2025)
- 30+ Environmental Justice groups including the Bronx Council on Environmental Quality
- 300+ civic, environmental justice, health, and community groups including NAACP NYS Conference, NYPIRG, LWV, American Lung Association, and American Academy of Pediatrics
- 130+ faith leaders
- New York City Council & New York City Mayor
- New York State Association of Counties
- 27 (and counting) counties, towns, and community boards...

Opinion: New York is ready for single-use plastic waste reduction

Cutting down on the production of single-use plastics will save taxpayer dollars, reduce pollution and protect our environment all at once.



Assembly Member Harvey Epstein speaks at a press conference at the state Capitol. OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN

By HARVEY EPSTEIN

SEPTEMBER 25, 2025



This week, New York City is hosting over 900 events dedicated to creating bold solutions to the climate crisis. Across all five boroughs, business leaders, politicians, climate activists, scientists and academics from across the world are gathering for conversations on clean energy solutions, decarbonizing industries and sustainable development.

“PRRIA has enormous bipartisan support: from 80% of Democrats, 62% of independents, and 60% of Republicans statewide. The message is clear: **New Yorkers want bold action to tackle plastic waste, and they want it now.**”

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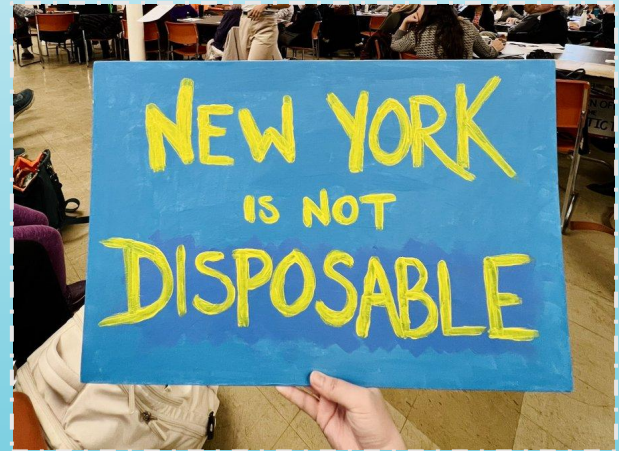
The logo for Beyond Plastics features a stylized blue wave graphic above the organization's name in a clean, sans-serif font.

Our Ask of Community Board Manhattan 8

Pass a Resolution of Support and send it to CB 8's State Legislators

Assembly Members: Asm. Eddie Gibbs (68), Asm. Alex Bores (73) and Asm. Rebecca Seawright (76)

Senators: Sen. Liz Krueger (28) and Sen. Jose Serrano (29)



Thank you!

Any questions?

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Sign up for the
Beyond Plastics
mailing list



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WHY NOW?

75% of people want single-use plastics banned, global survey finds

IPSOS Poll February, 2022

73% of New Yorkers support passing the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act (PRRIA)



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