Examples of How Plastics Are Helping Reduce the Environmental Footprint of Consumer Goods

323 million liters (89 million US gallons) of gasoline and diesel are saved over the lifetime of vehicles in North America¹.

Using plastics instead of alternative materials makes vehicles lighter so they use less fuel.

This is a reduction of 34% waste to 18% waste.

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And a net environmental saving of $606 per tonne of beef sirloin sold in North America.

And over $2.18 million in environmental savings to the North American economy for every additional 1% of sirloin steak sold in modern plastic packaging.

323 million liters (89 million US gallons) of gasoline and diesel are saved over the lifetime of vehicles in North America¹.

Which means a saving to the North American economy of $2.4 billion in environmental costs over the lifetime of cars sold in 2015².

This represents net environmental savings of $162 per car in North America³.

Notes/Assumptions:
2. Environmental cost savings include avoided life cycle water consumption, greenhouse gas and air, land and water pollutant emissions associated with fuel production, distribution and combustion.

All dollar values are in USD.
Source: Trucost Plastics and Sustainability: A Valuation of Environmental Benefits, Costs and Opportunities for Continuous Improvement