Replacing Plastic Packaging with Other Materials Would Increase Environmental Impacts

ALTERNATIVES TO PLASTIC PACKAGING WOULD NEARLY DOUBLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

When comparing materials throughout the entire life cycle of a package, plastics leave a much smaller environmental footprint than alternatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plastic</th>
<th>Alternatives, Max Decomp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Normalized U.S. Results for Plastic Packaging and Substitutes

Substituting Plastic Packaging Negatively Impacts Solid Waste

If consumers weren’t using plastics, they’d be using more glass and metal as substitutes. On average the combined weight of alternative materials is about 4.5 times more than the weight of plastic packaging, and compostable packaging requires the more rigorous conditions of municipal composting facilities to degrade.

Plastics Makers Circular Economy Goals

U.S. resin manufacturers have set goals to ensure that 100% of plastic packaging is recyclable or recoverable by 2030 and that all plastic packaging is re-used, recycled or recovered by 2040.

- All plastic packaging is 100% reused, recycled or recovered

4.5 times heavier than the weight of plastic packaging

2040

- All plastic packaging is 100% reused, recycled or recovered

Plastic Packaging

- Using plastics in packaging requires less energy
- Saves enough energy to heat nearly 48 million homes
- The plastic packaging lifecycle including post-consumer disposal, results in less solid waste
- Saves the weight of 290,000 jumbo jets worth of waste
- Production of plastic packaging consumes much less water, including in waste system
- Saves the weight of 461,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools

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