

Eco Friendly- Why does it matter?

by Barbara K McLaughlin

Everything we touch and everything we buy or own comes from Mother Earth and ultimately goes back to Mother Earth. Sometimes thoughtfully and sometimes not so thoughtfully. In order to clean up our planet and start to reverse the damage humankind has done, we need to get creative. The efforts going on now to save our oceans are critical and we need to do much more. Simply taking the garbage from our oceans is not a sustainable permanent solution.

We must move away from plastics and other non-biodegradable products. Even China- who recently banned plastic bags- has come to realize the damage this does to the environment. Slowly but surely we've begun to see the error of our ways. We are finding more and more biodegradable items available in previously unthought of areas of our lives, including the movement toward organic foods which pose much less risk to the other creatures we share our planet with as well as to ourselves.

At the Hobe Sound Beach Shop we are dedicated to the idea that we can all contribute to keeping our beach clean and beautiful as well as helping in our own small ways to move toward a more sustainable future. Instead of moving plastic detritus from the ocean to our landfills we are helping to support other uses for plastics . Did you know that 7 used water bottles can make a tee shirt (along with plant fibers!)?

We carry tee shirts that are made from recycled water bottles that are as soft and comfortable as anything you've ever worn. Our flip flops are made from recycled tires and recycled yoga mats! We also have coffee cups and eating utensils that made largely from wheat so when discarded they will biodegrade.



And yes you can put them in the dishwasher (but not the microwave). And never mind reusable straws that you have to wash. We have HAY straws that do not get soggy like paper straws, but will hold up for multiple uses and then biodegrade when discarded. Even our shopping bags are made from, recycled materials.

We are trying to do our part to help the environment as well as to offer you options to help as well. And when you no longer want these items, please choose to donate them rather than discard them. Others less fortunate can use things you no longer want and can help to keep things out of landfills a little longer.

When you reach to buy something new ask yourself if it is an item you can afford to spend a few cents (or dollars) more for in order to help Hobe Sound stay beautiful. Reusing and recycling is the key to a sustainable future for all of us- and perhaps together we can begin to reverse the climate change we're all experiencing and help to create a beautiful world for the generations that come after us.