

What Are [America's Plastic Makers](#)[®] Doing to End Plastic Waste in the Environment?

America's Plastics Makers: Who Are We?

We are the [leading U.S. producers of plastic resin](#), the modern raw materials used to make countless consumer goods and innovations that improve the quality of our lives, our environment, and our economy.

What Problem Are We Trying to Solve?

We are committed to doing our part to end plastic waste in the environment. Far too many plastics find their way into our environment, especially our ocean and rivers. This is unacceptable. To solve this multidimensional problem, plastics must be recovered and repurposed in ways that benefit people and our planet.

What Are We Doing Globally to End Plastic Waste?

We are partnering with conservation groups, researchers, and governments to help stop the flow of plastics into the ocean/environment. We are investing in research and development to deliver essential infrastructure to collect and manage waste and to increase recycling in the United States and in developing nations. We are committed to a circular economy for plastic packaging and are working toward a goal of [100 percent recovery of plastic packaging by 2040](#). And we are working across the plastics value chain to improve the design, efficiency, and recyclability of plastic packaging.

In addition, our members are leaders and founders of the [Alliance to End Plastic Waste](#), an organization of more than thirty companies from across the globe in the consumer goods, plastics, and waste management value chain. The Alliance aims to invest \$1.5 billion over the next five years in projects to eliminate plastic waste in the environment.

What Are We Doing to End Plastic Waste in California?

Here in California, we are collaborating with numerous groups to help keep plastic waste out of the environment. Some examples:

- Through a partnership with Adopt-A-Beach, we are sponsoring 215 recycling bins on beaches in Orange County, CA (165 bins at Huntington Beach and 50 at Seal Beach) to give beach goers an on-the-go recycling option. Signs on the bins illustrate which plastics to recycle.
- In 2019 we are sponsoring Keep California Beautiful's K-12 School Recycling Challenge Competition, which promotes waste reduction in California schools. It is the only statewide program of its kind promoting California's goal of reaching a 75 percent diversion rate from landfills by 2020.

- We have made longtime contributions to the LA Conservation Corps, a city program to serve underprivileged youth that includes programs to clean up the LA River.
- We have been longtime supporters of the Friends of the LA River to strengthen education, research, and cleanup projects and help revitalize this important waterway.
- We have provided educational recycling bins and a marine litter exhibit to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.
- We supported legislation (SB 1335) in 2018 that requires all types of food ware at state facilities to be recyclable or compostable. And we are working with local governments and recyclers to increase collection of foam packaging and food ware, such as take-out packaging.
- We supported enactment and actively support implementation of legislation (AB 258) focused on keeping plastic raw materials out of the environment, including expansion of Operation Clean Sweep throughout the state. Operation Clean Sweep is an industry wide campaign designed to prevent plastic resin pellets, flakes, and powders (raw materials) from reaching the environment.
- We support the “straws on request” legislation that was passed in California, and now we’re promoting similar legislation in other states.

In addition to these California specific initiatives, we are engaged in multiple U.S. and international efforts to improve waste management, increase recycling, and keep plastics out of our environment.

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*America’s Plastic Makers® are the **leading U.S. producers of plastic resin** who are working to end plastic waste in the environment and are among the world’s foremost providers of innovations that improve the quality of our lives, our environment, and our economy. America’s Plastic Makers® is a registered mark of the American Chemistry Council, Inc.*