

Choose to Reuse

The amount of plastic bags that end up in landfill sites is staggering. The shocking truth is that 100,000 tonnes of plastic carrier bags are thrown away in the UK each year, that's the same weight as 70,000 cars!

Plastic bags don't break down easily. Discarded plastic carriers are found littering even the remotest parts of the world. They can cause suffering to wildlife especially in the marine environment where ingestion can cause severe illness and even death.

Make the switch this summer and stop using single use plastic bags and invest in a bag for life. They are strong and durable so they can be used over and over again. Many supermarkets and retailers now sell them or why not buy the limited edition green Cheshire bag for life launched **to celebrate Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08. They're available for £2 from your local library - make your friends green with envy!**

Remember to take your bag for life with you to the shops, on a picnic, to the swimming baths and to the library. Use your bag as many times as possible!

Below are a few handy hints to help you remember to use your bags:

- take bags with you every time you go shopping;
- keep spare bags in your car or at work so you're never without;
- let the check-out staff know you've brought your own before they pack for you; some shops are now offering rewards if you reuse your own bags!

For more information about reducing, reusing and recycling in Cheshire visit www.recycleforcheshire.org.uk