

Bottled Water Quiz

True or False?

1. Bottled water is healthier than tap water.
2. Bottled water is safer than tap water.
3. Bottled water is convenient and portable.
4. Most plastic water bottles are recycled.
5. The market for bottled water is growing.
6. The UN is addressing water issues in the developing world.
7. Some bottled water is more expensive than gasoline.
8. My purchase of bottled water is unrelated to safer drinking water for the whole world.

Answers on the reverse side

Presbyterians for Restoring Creation (PRC) is a nationwide network that cares for God's Creation by connecting, equipping, and inspiring. www.prcweb.org

What You Can Do

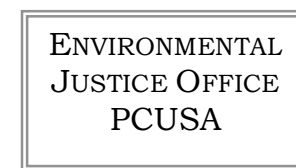
- Sign the Bottled Water Pledge and invite others to sign.
- Drink water from a reusable bottle, travel mug or canteen.
- Encourage your church to provide water pitchers rather than individual bottles at meetings & events.
- Engage in water issues through education, worship, advocacy (resources below), and service (e.g., stream clean-ups).
- Encourage municipal officials to keep your water utility in public control.
- Insist on safe standards and affordable access for all.
- Conserve water (fix leaky faucets, take shorter showers, turn off faucets when brushing teeth/washing dishes).

Further Resources

For Worship, Education and Advocacy
www.prcweb.org
www.pcusa.org/environment
www.pcusa.org/oghs
www.pcusa.org/trade/thirst
www.pcusa.org/peacemaking
www.pcusa.org/washington
www.livingwatersfortheworld.org
www.churchworldservice.org
www.ncccojustice.org

H₂O:

How To Overcome The Bottled Water Habit



Created by Presbyterians for Restoring Creation and cosponsored by Presbyterian Environmental Justice, Peacemaking and Hunger programs (PCUSA), and by Living Waters for the World

To the thirsty, I will give water as a gift from the spring of life. **Revelation 21:6**

Printed on recycled paper



Why This Campaign?

At the June 2005 PRC Conference *Sharing the Waters of Life*, we were encouraged to learn about our local watersheds and the impact of our water use around the world.

Avoiding bottled water is one way we can take better care of water resources, locally and globally. Water bottles are made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), an oil product. Most bottles are not recycled. In this campaign we stand for public control of local water and against waste, unnecessary production of plastics, and huge profits made from bottled water production and consumption (while people, especially children, die for lack of safe water around the world).

What the Bible Teaches:

Is it not enough for you to drink clear water? Must you also muddy the rest with your feet?

Ezekiel 34:18

Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..

Matthew 25:34-35

What the Church Teaches:

Humans are making excessive demands upon, and doing reckless damage to, the lakes and streams, the ground water, and even the oceans...

Meanwhile, most Third World nations cannot afford the systems that would provide safe drinking water...

[H]uman beings [must] practice wise, humble, responsible stewardship, after the model of servanthood that we have in Jesus.

"Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice" General Assembly 1990

Bottled Water Pledge



I pledge to avoid use of disposable plastic (PET) water bottles.



I pledge to drink from a reusable container.



I pledge to ask my church and/or presbytery to eliminate PET water bottles from church events.



I pledge to learn more about local and global water concerns.



I pledge to support public water utilities and affordable access to clean water for all people.

To sign this pledge:

www.prcweb.org

or contact PRC Coordinator

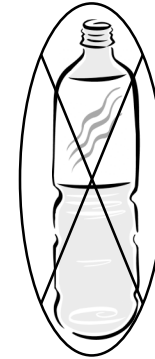
Rebecca Barnes-Davies:

prc@sfts.edu or 415-451-2826

We are called to be obedient to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, who loves the whole world and who invites us to be stewards of the earth and servants of his people, to be co-workers in the new Creation.

*Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling
General Assembly 1980*

www.pcusa.org/peacemaking



Answers

Bottled Water Quiz

(see reverse)

- 1. False.** There is often no difference. Little is known about the health risks of water stored in disposable plastic (PET) bottles or the effect of additives over long periods at high temperatures.*
 - 2. False.** The US EPA sets more stringent standards for tap water than the FDA does for bottled beverages. Roughly 40% of bottled water is actually tap water.*
 - 3. True.** But using a refillable bottle is just as convenient and less expensive.
 - 4. False.** According to the Container Recycling Institute, only 14% of PET bottles are recycled. The rest end up in landfills or as litter. Millions of barrels of oil are required each year to produce and transport them.
 - 5. True.** The Beverage Marketing Corporation states that Americans spent more than \$9 billion on bottled water in 2004 and that the product's rate of growth was almost 10% per year for the previous 10 years.
 - 6. True.** The UN adopted a resolution in 2003 calling this the "Decade for Water." The Millennium Development Goals also have an objective to halve the number of people who lack reliable and safe drinking water by 2015.
 - 7. True.** Often selling for up to \$2.50 a liter (which translates to \$10 a gallon), bottled water is more expensive than gasoline.
 - 8. False.** The UN estimates that if the world took half of what it now spends on bottled water (\$100 billion per year) and invested it in water infrastructure and treatment, everyone in the world could have access to clean drinking water.
- * In emergency and special health circumstances, bottled water may be the only safe water available.