

Single Use Plastic Reduction Initiative

Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee

March 4th, 2014



Single Use Plastic Reduction Initiative

Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee

March 4th, 2014



(Re)introduction

Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee

The Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee (YECC), a team of National Park Service (NPS) employees, park concessionaires, and non-profit partners, work together combining extensive resources to elevate the potential for sustainability achievements in Yellowstone National Park.



Supporting Yellowstone's Strategic Plan for Sustainability

- Purchase environmentally friendly products and minimize the lifecycle impacts of purchased materials.
- Educate employees on the importance of purchasing and waste reduction to inspire them to buy green and reduce waste in Yellowstone and at home.
- Ensure the most sustainable use of waste products.

Preferred: Alternative A

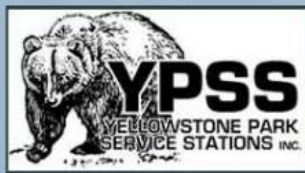
Consists of a concerted effort to actively reduce single use plastic and to meet all the objectives of the plan without introducing a complete ban on bottled water sales.



- All campground spigots
- All YPSS location opportunities
- Xanterra offers fast foods, and

Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee

The Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee (YECC), a team of National Park Service (NPS) employees, park concessionaires, and non-profit partners, work together combining extensive resources to elevate the potential for sustainability achievements in Yellowstone National Park





Supporting Yellowstone's Strategic Plan for Sustainability

- Purchase environmentally friendly products and minimize the lifecycle impacts of purchased materials.
- Educate employees on the importance of purchasing and waste reduction to inspire them to buy green and reduce waste in Yellowstone and at home.
- Ensure the most sustainable use of waste products.

Preferred: Alternative A

Consists of a concerted effort to actively reduce single use plastic and to meet all the objectives of the plan without introducing a complete ban on bottled water sales.

OBJECTIVE ONE

Provide staff and visitors with ample opportunities to fill bottles with potable water within developed areas and campgrounds.



Action: Increase availability and access of filling stations throughout the park.

OBJECTIVE TWO

Educate staff, partners, and visitors on the importance of plastic reduction, reuse of bottles, and encourage long-lasting behavior change beyond the boundaries of the park.



Action: Develop a consistent park message, inform visitors of nearest filling stations, educate visitors about packaging alternatives, communicate impacts of plastic production and health concerns.

OBJECTIVE THREE

Provide visitors and employees compelling alternatives to purchasing single use plastics at a comparable cost.



Action: Provide reusable beverage containers to visitors and employees. Provide drinks in containers other than plastic. Track sales of plastic containers. Reduce small-serve plastic beverage containers (1 gal vs. 16oz).

OBJECTIVE FOUR

Ensure that all programs and partners in Yellowstone are actively supporting the Plastics Reduction Program.



Action: By working collaboratively through the YECC, the National Park Service and all park partners will be involved in the plastic reduction program and sharing successes as we move forward with specific action items.

OBJECTIVE ONE

Provide staff and visitors with ample opportunities to fill bottles with potable water within developed areas and campgrounds.



Action: Increase availability and access of filling stations throughout the park.

OBJECTIVE TWO

Educate staff, partners, and visitors on the importance of plastic reduction, reuse of bottles, and encourage long-lasting behavior change beyond the boundaries of the park.



Action: Develop a consistent park message, inform visitors of nearest filling stations, educate visitors about packaging alternatives, communicate impacts of plastic production and health concerns.

OBJECTIVE THREE

Provide visitors and employees compelling alternatives to purchasing single use plastics at a comparable cost.



Action: Provide reusable beverage containers to visitors and employees. Provide drinks in containers other than plastic. Track sales of plastic containers. Reduce small-serve plastic beverage containers (1 gal vs. 16oz).

OBJECTIVE FOUR

Ensure that all programs and partners in Yellowstone are actively supporting the Plastics Reduction Program.



Action: By working collaboratively through the YECC, the National Park Service and all park partners will be involved in the plastic reduction program and sharing successes as we move forward with specific action items.

Our Current State

Current Filling Opportunities



- 8/12 Yellowstone General Stores offer filling stations (+1 in 2014)
- 6/13 Visitors centers and Comfort Stations have water filling opportunities
- All campgrounds have seasonal frost-free spigots
- All YPSS locations provide fountain water filling opportunities
- Xanterra offers filling opportunities at all delis, fast foods, and a dedicated station at MH

ction

Supporting Yellowstone's Strategic Plan for Sustainability

environmentally friendly products and the lifecycle impacts of purchased products. Employees on the importance of recycling and waste reduction to inspire them to reduce waste in Yellowstone and at the most sustainable use of waste

Inc

Recycling Waste

- P
- A
- I
- C

Current Filling Opportunities



- 8/12 Yellowstone General Stores offer filling stations (+1 in 2014)
- 6/13 Visitors centers and Comfort Stations have water filling opportunities
- All campgrounds have seasonal frost-free spigots
- All YPSS locations provide fountain water filling opportunities
- Xanterra offers filling opportunities at all delis, fast foods, and a dedicated station at MH

Filling Opportunities

Yellowstone General Stores offer filling (+1 in 2014)

Visitor centers and Comfort Stations offer filling opportunities
Some grounds have seasonal frost-free

Locations provide fountain water filling opportunities

Offers filling opportunities at all delis, and a dedicated station at MH

Indicators of Success and Program Tracking

Recycling and Waste Impacts



- Plastic recycling data tracking
- Amount of waste eliminated
- Impacts on West Yellowstone Compost Facility

Financial Impacts



- Infrastructure costs
- Bottle sales/buying behavior
- Revenue impacts

Filling Station Inventory and Messaging



- Number and location of filling opportunities
- Guest messaging summary

Visitor and Guest Impacts

- Visitor surveys/Unifocus
- Public health/safety

Requested Budget

	Cost	# Units	Total
Filling Stations with Install	\$4,000	7	\$28,000
Outdoor Filling Station*	\$7,000	1	\$7,000
Wayfinding Signs	\$500	13	\$1,300
Interpretive Signs	\$500	9	\$2,400
NPS Employee Bottles*	\$5	1,500	\$7,500

Total Plastic Reduction Budget = \$46,200

* Opportunities may exist for donations (Elkay, Nalgene, etc)

NEXT
DISC

Recycling and Waste Impacts



- Plastic recycling data tracking
- Amount of waste eliminated
- Impacts on West Yellowstone Compost Facility

Financial Impacts



- Infrastructure costs
- Bottle sales/buying behavior
- Revenue impacts

Filling Station Inventory and Messaging



- Number and location of filling opportunities
- Guest messaging summary



Visitor and Guest Impacts

- Visitor surveys/Unifocus
- Public health/safety

and

sts
ing behavior



DRAFT Interpretative and Wayfinding Messaging

* Opportunities may exist for donations (Elkay, Nalgene, etc.)

NPS Gap Analysis

Location	Water Fountain Available	Filling Station Needed	Outdoor Station
VC = Visitors Center CS = Comfort Station			
Old Faithful VC	X		
Canyon VC	X		
Mammoth VC	X		
Mammoth Restroom	X		
Grant VC	X		
West Thumb VC	X		
Fishing Bridge VC		X	
Lake VC		X	
Madison VC		X	
Norris CS		X	
Canyon Rim CS		X	
Canyon Rim CS		X	
Canyon Rim CS		X	
Mammoth Public Area			X

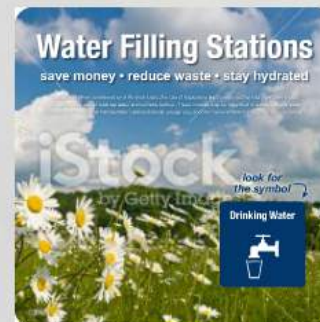
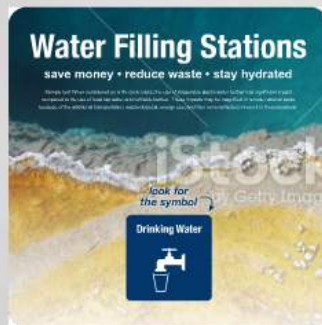
NPS Employee Support

Provide all NPS employees with a free reusable bottle that involves interpretation regarding Plastic Reduction.



Cost = \$2.00

DRAFT Interpretative and Wayfinding Messaging



Water Filling Stations

save money • reduce waste • stay hydrated

Sample text When considered on a life-cycle basis, the use of disposable plastic water bottles has significant impact compared to the use of local tap water and refillable bottles. These impacts may be magnified in remote national parks because of the additional transportation, waste disposal, energy use, and litter removal factors inherent in these locations.

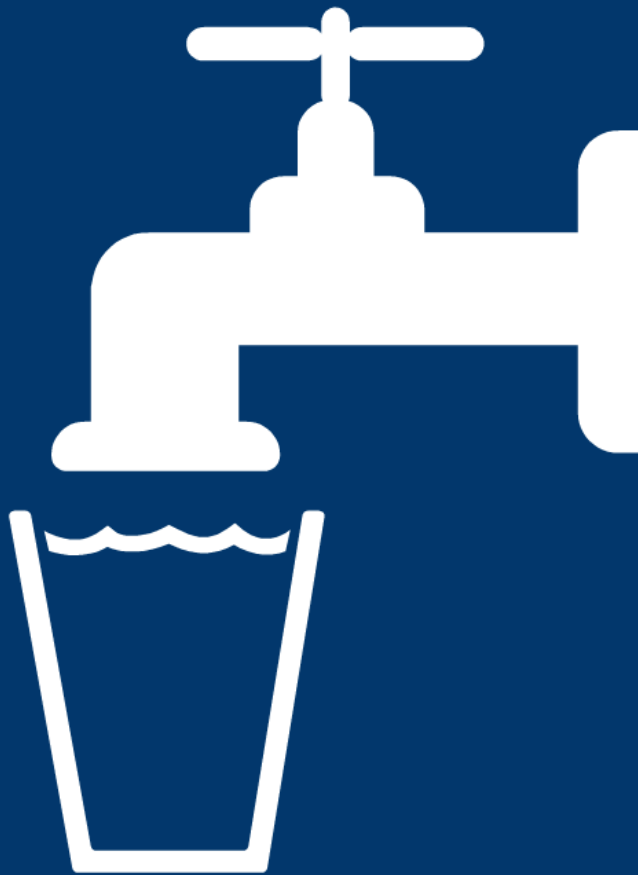
*look for
the symbol*

Drinking Water



Drinking Water

save money • reduce waste • stay hydrated



Water Filling Stations

reduce waste • refill your bottle • stay hydrated

Sample text When considered on a life-cycle basis, the use of disposable plastic water bottles has significant impact compared to the use of local tap water and refillable bottles. These impacts may be magnified in remote national parks because of the additional transportation, waste disposal, energy use, and litter removal factors inherent in these locations.



*look for
the symbol* →

Drinking Water



Water Filling Stations

save money • reduce waste • stay hydrated

Sample text When considered on a life-cycle basis, the use of disposable plastic water bottles has significant impact compared to the use of local tap water and refillable bottles. These impacts may be magnified in remote national parks because of the additional transportation, waste disposal, energy use, and litter removal factors inherent in these locations.

iStock
by Getty Images

*look for
the symbol*

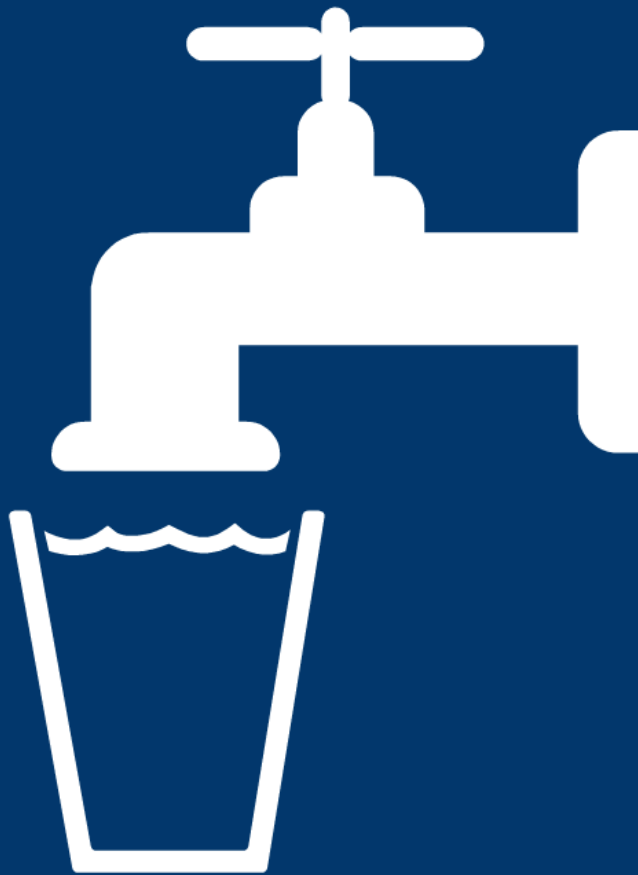


Drinking Water



Drinking Water

reduce waste • refill your bottle • stay hydrated



Requested Budget

	Cost	# Units	Total
Filling Stations with Install	\$4,000	7	\$28,000
Outdoor Filling Station*	\$7,000	1	\$7,000
Wayfinding Signs	\$100	13	\$1,300
Interpretive Signs	\$300	8	\$2,400
NPS Employee Bottles*	\$5	1,500	\$7,500

Total Plastic Reduction Budget = \$46,200

* Opportunities may exist for donations (Elkay, Nalgene, etc)

A scenic landscape featuring a dense forest of evergreen trees in the background, a body of water in the middle ground, and a grassy field in the foreground. A large, thick green circle is superimposed over the image, framing the central text. The text is white and bold, set against a semi-transparent grey rectangular background.

**NEXT STEPS AND
DISCUSSION...**