SECAUCUS TOWN HALL IS TAKING THE INITIATIVE

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Soon, all water fountains in

Town Hall will have filtered

bottle refilling stations in order to reduce plastic bottle

waste!

Secaucus Environmental Department

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THE TRUTH ABOUT BOTTLED WATER

'Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed.'

— Mahatma Gandhi



Is Tap Water Safe? <u>Yes!</u>

- Municipalities test tap water multiple times a day. In a city of over 1 million, it is tested over 300 times a month. In a city of over 3 million, it is tested over 400 times a month.
- On average, tap water in New Jersey costs less than 1 cent per gallon. Bottled water costs \$1.22
 per gallon. <u>This means that bottled water costs over 300x more</u> <u>than tap!</u> This figure is much higher when considering single serve plastic bottles (16.9 oz).
- 40% of bottled water is just filtered tap water!

The Facts:

- The World Bank values the world water market at **\$800 billion**.
- Plastic water bottle manufacturers use 714 million gallons of oil per year to make plastic bottles. That's enough to fuel 100,000 cars.
- 30 million single use plastic bottles end up in landfills daily. This is almost 40% of the total plastic bottles used daily.
- Average world recycling of beverage containers is 50%. America is 20%. This may be due to only 50% of Americans having curbside recycling.

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"Human nature is like water. It takes the shape of its container."

- Wallace Stevens

The Dangers of Plastic Bottles

- B-phisenol (BPA) is a known endocrine disruptor linked to severe health problems such as diabetes, obesity, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and brain and liver disease.
- BPA is used in the production of plastic water bottles and can leach into the water. BPA in food and beverage containers accounts for the majority of daily human exposure.
- BPA exposure can possibly cause negative brain and behavioral effects on fetuses, infants, and children.
- Recent studies show that BPA-free alternatives may not be any



safer than BPA plastics.