

Dear California Fish & Game Commission,

It sets an extremely bad example for Californians when Commissioners drink from single-use plastic bottled water at Commission hearings. Please institute a policy where no publicly-funded plastic bottles can be served at Commission hearings. I have pasted info on the environmental harms of plastic bottles, as well as alternatives, below.

Would you eat a \$5,000 meal at a restaurant? Probably not. Yet many people routinely spend 1,000 times more for a bottle of water than the equivalent amount of water costs when it comes from the tap. Americans drank 30 billion bottles of water in 2005, the majority of which were NOT recycled. According to the Pacific Institute, the production of 30 billion plastic bottles requires the equivalent of 17 million barrels of oil (enough to fuel more than one million vehicles for a year!), produces more than 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, and uses three times the amount of water than ends up in the bottle. And these numbers don't include the environmental cost of transporting the bottles from the factory to your local store. Interestingly, 25% of American bottled water (and 100% of Aquafina and Dasani) is just processed tap water that did NOT come from that fresh bubbly mountain spring you envisioned. Bottled water sold by Sam's Club & Wal-Mart have been found to have contaminants above California's legally acceptable limits. Most municipal water supplies undergo stringent quality-control procedures, but if you are concerned about the health quality of your home water source, consider buying a PUR or Brita water filter. If you are leaving the house for the day, fill up a Klean Kanteen that you can re-use for years. These products will save you money, allow you to drink the water in any situation, and reduce your impact on the environment. The majority of western countries have free access to clean tap water. Take advantage of it: drink tap water, not bottled water.

Thank you!

Kerry Kriger

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SAVE THE FROGS! is the world's leading amphibian conservation organization. We work in California, across the USA, and around the world to prevent the extinction of amphibians, and to create a better planet for humans and wildlife. Since 2008, SAVE THE FROGS! has organized over 1,400 educational events in 59 countries to raise awareness for endangered amphibians.



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