

“Plastic Bottles”

Dear Adam and Eve:

I saw your letter about where to recycle plastic bottles but I thought the whole idea about this environmental thing was not to use throw-away stuff anyway! C. B.

Dear C.B.:

Let's never discourage anyone from recycling anything that is in one's possession. Once we have obtained it, we must use it and dispose of it as responsibly as possible!

Now, whether we should have obtained it at all—that's a different story! In Woman's Day, it is reported that Americans throw away 2.5 MILLION plastic bottles every HOUR!! Not year but hour!!

The “environmental thing” is a constantly rethinking process. Take plastics for instance. If we must buy plastic water bottles, buy only the recyclable #1's and #2's. Better would be re-using that throw-away bottle many times before recycling, or even better, buying a re-useable bottle.

But, the best choice would be those forgotten re-useable bottles we've gathered over the years (such as those from B'nai Mitzvah's). Wash, fill, put them in the fridge, and grab one of those instead of a throw-away. (What a great way to honor that Bar/Bat Mitzvah!)

Whether we are considering plastics, gardening, paper disposal, transportation, energy, etc., it does require forethought. But, like we tell our kids Ken and Mabel, we have all been given brains and most of them are excellent for thinking!

And Remember!

RETHINK! REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!

Please email questions/comments to DearAdamandEve@timemphis.org or write “Dear Adam and Eve”, c/o Temple Israel, 1376 E. Massey Rd., Memphis, TN 38120

