



Starting a One Less Straw Campaign

One Less Straw was developed to educate and inspire people to get involved and make a difference. Did you know, it is estimated that in America alone we are using 500-million single use plastic straws every single day? That is 1.6 straws for every man, woman and child living in this country every single day. If you took the daily usage of plastic straws we use here in America, you could fill up 127 school busses every single day and most never get recycled. Think about that, if you ride a bus to school every day imagine what it must be like to see 127 busses filled with just plastic straws!

The objective is to get every student to stop using one-use straws.



A multi-tiered approach:

- 1) Create a committee of students from every grade level to work on the campaign.
- 2) Determine how long the campaign will be, a week? A month?
- 3) Assign committee members to activities:
 - a. Identify how many straws are used by each student per week. You can do this by asking the cafeteria workers and principal how many straws are purchased annually. You can also ask students to take a short survey.

- b. Students can design posters for the hallways showing how many straws are used by the student body and what happens to those straws when they are discarded. Be creative!
 - c. Students can develop short informational stories about how one-use straws can harm people, animals, fish and the environment for morning announcements, the school newspaper, etc.
 - d. Create a petition to propose banning straws from the cafeteria, or campaigning for paper straws. Consider a fundraiser selling re-usable straws.
- 4) Decide what strategy you will use daily during your campaign to raise awareness about the hazards of using one-use straws.

Sample Challenge Email to Students

1. **Ask for no straw** – if you ask you shall *not* receive!
2. **Carry a reusable straw** – bamboo, paper, metal, there are plenty of options
3. **Ask your local cafe, bar or restaurant to go plastic-straw free** (and let us know if you're successful!)
4. **Get your friends, relatives, school or workplace to join in** – when we work together *everything* is possible!

If you would like someone from DRBA to help you with your One Less Straw Campaign, please contact Krista Hodges, Environmental Education Manager at khodges@danriver.org.

One Less Straw Resources

[Simply Straws](#) – makers of high-quality reusable glass drinking straws

[The Rubbish Whisperer](#) offers a host of plastic free products that are sure to help you reduce your plastic footprint.

[Non-Plastic Straws: Healthy Alternatives to Regular Drinking Straws](#)

[GlassDharma](#) – makers of high-quality reusable glass drinking straws.

[BambuHome](#) – makers of bamboo straw alternatives that are both stylish and practical.

[One Ocean Ohana](#) – makers of reusable straw pouch with steel straws. Also see their [Facebook page](#).

[Stainless Steel reusable drinking straws](#) from our friends at Life Without Plastic.

[DrinkingStraws.glass](#) – makers of decorative high-quality glass drinking straws.

[Strawesome](#) – glass drinking straws.

[Life Without Plastic](#) – offers great alternatives to plastic

[U•KONSERVE](#) – offers a wide array of awesome products that help you avoid using plastic. [U•Konserve is the result of two mothers' struggle to be environmentally conscious as their families grew...](#) Check out their [Special Offer](#)

[Koffee Straw](#) – offers a unique reusable silicon straw that allows you to enjoy your hot beverage without staining your teeth or adding to the plastic straw consumption.

[StrawFree.org Bamboo Straws](#) – Tackling the global plastic problem — one bamboo straw at a time — Proceeds from the sale of StrawFree.org's bamboo straws support education and outreach efforts about the impact of plastic straws on the environment. Please note, each straw is made by hand, and will vary slightly in color and size.