Plastic Bag Initiative

Julia Dinverno, Emily Rasch, Alison Stemczyski, & Shelly Stusick
Environmental Studies 401: Environmental Problem Solving
Project Objective

Tamaracktalk.com

Reuters /STR New/
Why are plastic bags a problem?

**Environmental**
- Pollution
  - Animal Impacts
  - Human Impacts

**Economic**
- Costly

**Social**
- Awareness

*World Wildlife Fund*
Part of the Solution

Raising Awareness
• Informational Posters
• Newsletters
• Educating Cashiers

Offering alternatives during transition period & after implementation of ban
• Reusable Bags
• Tax on Plastic Bags
Our Journey

Original Objective
• Large scale

Community Partners & Meetings
• Student Environmental Coalition
• GVSU Office of Sustainability Practices
• University Bookstore

Roadblocks
• Communication
Impacts for GVSU

Cost & Savings
• Bookstore & Admissions

Prestige
• Rankings

Conscientious Student Body
• Awareness & Responsibility

GVSU.edu
What’s Next?

- Recognize problem
- Follow up with bookstore
- Campus awareness
QUESTIONS?

WHAT GOES IN THE OCEAN GOES IN YOU.

RECENT STUDIES ESTIMATE THAT FISH OFF THE WEST COAST INGEST OVER 12,000 TONS OF PLASTIC A YEAR. FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP TURN THE TIDE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AT WWW.SURFRIDER.ORG/RAP.

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION