

# DISPOSE OF CONTACT LENSES PROPERLY!



- **45 million people** in the U.S. wear contact lenses
- **15-20% of contact wearers** flush lenses down the sink or toilet
- An estimated **6-10 metric tons** of plastic lenses end up in wastewater in the U.S. each year
- **In wastewater treatment**, lenses likely breakdown to form microplastics
- **Microplastics pose risk** to aquatic organisms, marine animals, and entire food supply

*Used contact lenses and all their packaging can be recycled through innovative programs at [TerraCycle.com](https://www.terracycle.com). Boxes and cleaning solution bottles may be recyclable in your regular municipal recycling; check local guidelines.*

**Source:** Biodesign Institute Center for Environmental Health Engineering at Arizona State University (ASU), presented to American Chemical Society, August 2018.



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