

# Plastic wrap and their ecological footprint

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**Made by the Greek team**

**It may save your sandwich, but plastic wrap pollutes the planet.**



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Plastic wrap is popular in the United States. One industry research group found that, in the past six months, nearly 80 million Americans had used at least one roll of plastic wrap, but more than five million Americans had gone through more than 10 million boxes. Commercial uses in supermarkets and shipping account for the additional three million tons of plastic wrap companies expect to make in 2019.





**Though the portable, cheap wrap keeps leftovers fresh for longer, there are several catches: Plastic wrap contributes to the larger plastic pollution crisis, it's difficult to recycle, and it's made from potentially harmful chemicals, especially as they break down in the environment.**



**In marine environments, plastic wrap contributes to a larger plastic pollution crisis, but unlike other plastics, scientists are finding that PVC and PVDC do great jobs of picking up bacteria and metals. Those contaminated pieces of microplastic then harm the fish that mistake them for food.**





# The search for alternatives

- Wax paper was frequently used in the decades before plastic wrap was stocked on supermarket shelves, and it's a reusable form of wax paper that's now offering an alternative to throwaway plastics.
- Bee's Wrap is made by coating bee's wax, jojoba oil, and tree resin onto a thin strip of cotton. Warmth from your hands loosens the bonds, making it more pliable and sticky.

