

# Single Use Plastic

By Mayer Bhave

*“My family and I carry our own steel glasses, spoons and steel bottles wherever we go”*

Rather than waiting for the state government to impose a ban on plastic, some individuals and groups in the city of Pune, India, are doing their bit to protect the environment by reducing the use of plastic or even completely eliminating it from their lives. From terracotta bottles to carrying your own plates and cloth bags wherever you go, here is what Mayur Bhave, a development manager at Siemens India, and his family have been doing to #beatplasticpollution

“For the Bhave family, eating out or attending an event or function has one rule--you have to carry your own plate and glass. Be it the eldest Subhash or the youngest Rujuta, the family ensures that they do their little bit to protect the environment. A development manager at Siemens India, Mayur realised the harm which humans are causing to the Earth many years ago. He started by eliminating the use of plastic bags and switched to cloth bags. Gradually, he introduced the concept of avoiding plastic containers, plates and disposable items to his family. “It is all about making an effort. My family and I carry our own steel glasses, spoons and steel bottles wherever we go. Even at weddings or functions, we do not drink water in plastic cups or eat in anything that is non-biodegradable. From Ganeshotsav to Diwali celebrations, we ensure that everything is plastic-free. I also advice my housing society members to follow the same practice,” said Mayur, who also uses a Bamboo brush for his dental hygiene and a glass/ceramic mug for everyday use.

The Bhave family has around 100 steel plates, glasses and spoons that they keep handy. Sujata said, “Societies tend to organise a lot of events, imagine the kind of toxic waste one society will generate if everything used is disposable...All these small changes make a huge difference in the long run.”



## What Mayur Bhave suggests:

1. Quit using plastic cups/glasses in office and carry a reusable mug or cup
2. Keep cloth bags in your car, bike, office and home
3. Keep a set of steel glass, plate and spoons handy
4. Use bamboo straws
5. Use a bamboo made brush instead of a plastic one

Full Article Here:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/pune-news/meet-the-anti-plastic-crusaders-of-pune-who-reduce-refuse-reuse/story-Gj3tUD8s6Bi0LJanCyFQeK.html>

