

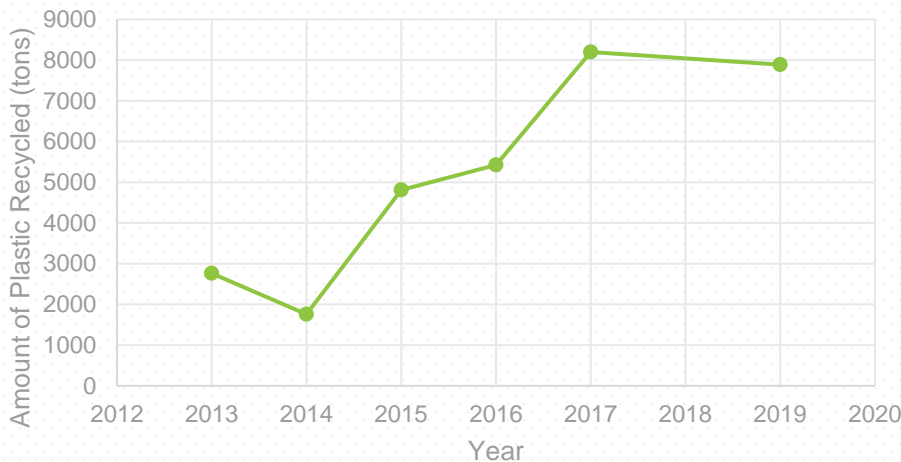


Plastic Discards in New Mexico



- **New Mexico Recycles about 8,000 tons of plastic each year**
- **With approx. 2 million tons of Municipal Solid Waste in NM each year & USA EPA Estimate that plastics make up approximately 12% of American's trash that = a 3.3% recycling rate for plastics in NM.**

Plastic Recycling in New Mexico



Source: New Mexico Environment Department: Solid Waste Bureau, please note this is an estimate based on reports submitted to the department by registered or permitted solid waste facilities

A large pile of trash and debris, including plastic bottles, food wrappers, and a white plastic chair, is scattered across a dry, brown desert landscape. The text "Taos County" is overlaid in the top right corner. An inset image in the bottom right corner shows a person lying on the ground in a similar desert environment.



A photograph showing a large, messy pile of discarded trash on a dry, reddish-brown dirt hillside. The trash includes numerous clear and white plastic bags, some crumpled and others partially filled, along with various pieces of debris like cardboard, paper, and small plastic fragments. A prominent pink plastic bag is visible on the right side of the pile. The background shows more of the hillside with sparse, dry vegetation and a clear blue sky. The text "Sandoval County" is overlaid in white on the upper right portion of the image.

Sandoval County

Dona Ana County



Bernalillo County





**WE CANNOT
RECYCLE OUR
WAY OUT OF
THIS PROBLEM**

What do you do first?

Turn off the faucet or grab a mop?



Plastics Are Made From Chemicals and Fossil Fuels



Fossil fuels are: coal, oil and gas.



Today, mostly made from a by-product of gas: ethane

The Plastics Crisis IS the Climate Change Crisis

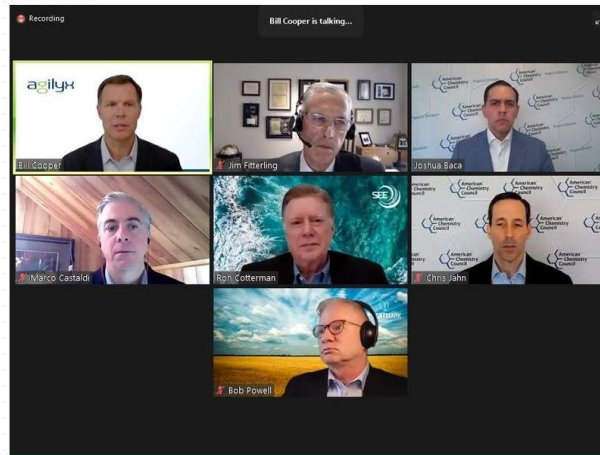



The Plastics Crisis IS an Environmental Justice Crisis



ACC to Washington: Don't block chemical recycling

STEVE TOLOKEN





Shell's Newest "Cracking" Plant
1 million tons of new
plastic each year.

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- Global plastic production will triple by 2050, accounting for 20% of global oil consumption.
 - Emissions linked to plastic will reach 1.3 billion tons by 2030, equal to 300 coal-fired power plants.

How does this affect Santa Fe County?

Each year in Santa Fe County (not including the City of Santa Fe) an estimated amount of the following is used:

- 20 million single use plastic bags
- 12,750 expanded polystyrene foam take out food containers
- 36,500 plastic drinking straws

Contamination Costs to Recycling Programs

- Single-Use Plastic bags cost Albuquerque MRF approximately \$3.8 million per year in recycling contamination/residual
- Single-Use Plastic bags cost Santa Fe County approximately \$400,000 per year in recycling contamination/residual**
- Food debris covered take out food containers cost Albuquerque MRF approximately \$830,000 per year in contamination/residual
- Food debris covered take out food containers cost Santa Fe County approximately \$67,000 per year in contamination/residual**