

NESTLÉ WATERS NORTH AMERICA

# KNOW THE FACTS



## CLAIM

*Nestlé Waters is draining our water resources.*

## FACTS

***We are an obvious, but very small water user.***

*In fact, taken together, all bottled water production – not just that associated with Nestlé Waters – makes up just 0.011% of the total water use in the U.S.*

***Bottled water has the lowest environmental footprint of any packaged beverage.***

*We use less than 3 liters of water on average to produce 1 liter of bottled water – the lowest water footprint within the beverage category.*

***Water is a natural resource, if it is managed responsibly.***

*We spend countless hours and millions of dollars each year helping ensure these resources are protected. Selecting and managing our water sources is a thorough and meticulous process guided by a dedicated team of engineers, geologists, and hydrogeologists who rigorously monitor a variety of environmental elements, including habitat assessments, water levels, water flows, and water withdrawal.*

***Depleting water resources would put us out of business.***

*Simply put: it would make absolutely NO sense to invest millions of dollars into our local operations just to deplete the natural resources on which our business relies. It would undermine the success of our business and go against every value we hold as people and as a company.*

## CLAIM

*Nestlé Waters' goal is to turn water from a public resource into a private one.*

## FACTS

***We do not compete with municipalities for water. EVER. And we do not privatize public water supplies.***

*For example, in communities like Evart, Michigan where we purchase water, we have a clause in our agreement that specifies that, before we can purchase water, the community must have enough water to meet their needs.*

***We help improve communities' access to water.***

*Again, in Michigan, we invested \$1.5 million to evaluate and help provide a new city well in Osceola County that is used solely by the community. In California, we have partnered with the Cucamonga Valley Water District in San Bernardino County to support a groundwater treatment project that is expected to restore approximately 250 million gallons of additional safe, clean drinking water each year to the local water supply.*

*We also help supply water in times of natural disaster or other emergencies. We frequently supply drinking water to local municipalities and first responders when tap water may be unavailable. In 2017 alone, we donated more than 7 million bottles of water to communities in need.*

***Bottled water cannot, and will not, replace tap water — and we never expect it to.***

*Bottled water does, however, play an important role in helping Americans stay hydrated at a time when 70% of beverages are consumed away from home. Americans have a growing preference for water—mineral, still, sparkling, and flavored. In 2017, the sales of single-serve bottled water surpassed sales of carbonated soft drinks for the first time ever. That's great news for the health of our country as billions of calories are being taken out of the American diet.*

***Bottled water is essential in times of natural disaster or other emergencies.***

*We work on an ongoing basis with relief partners, such as Americares, American Red Cross, Feeding America, and Gleaning for the World to help deliver water where and when it's needed. In 2017, we donated over 5 million bottles of water to help those affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and the wildfires in Northern California.*

## CLAIM

*Nestlé Waters is encouraging a wasteful, throw-away culture by producing plastic bottles.*

## FACTS

***Bottled water containers make up less than 1% of municipal waste***

*But we all need to do more to make sure ALL plastic containers are recycled – from detergent containers to peanut butter jars to beverage bottles.*

***We design all of our bottles to be 100% recyclable.***

*PET plastic, which we use to make most of our bottles at Nestlé Waters, was never meant to be thrown away. It was designed to be captured, recycled, and reused again and again.*

***We're leading the industry in our use of recycled plastic.***

*More than 42% of the plastic we use across all brands sold in California is made from rPET– more than any other beverage manufacturer in the state. In fact, all of our single-serve Arrowhead® Brand Mountain Spring Water and Nestlé® Pure Life® Purified Water produced in California are made with 50% recycled plastic.*

*We also have a Nestlé® Pure Life® bottle available nationally that is made using 100% rPET.*

***Nestlé Waters was the first beverage company to add How2Recycle® information on our labels.***

*These labels, added to all of our major U.S. brands, include a reminder for consumers to empty the bottle and replace the cap on the bottle before recycling.*

***We're investing in recycling infrastructure projects and community recycling programs across the U.S.***

*We have invested \$6 million in Closed Loop Fund, a \$100 million social impact investment fund. The Closed Loop Fund has diverted more than 100,000 tons of recyclable content, and the 11 projects currently funded are poised to divert 4 million tons by 2025.*

***We're always exploring innovative packaging.***

*We've partnered with Danone, Pepsi and Origin Materials to develop a PET plastic bottle made from 100% sustainable and renewable bio-based materials.*

## CLAIM

*Nestlé Waters does not pay its fair share for water.*

## FACTS

***We pay the rates set by the local and state authorities.***

*And those rates vary significantly from site to site. We fully support balanced water resource protection, including water use fees, which ensure the long-term sustainability of water and are fair for all water users.*

***No one actually pays for water.***

*What we all pay for is the cost associated with infrastructure, quality and delivery of water. Nestlé Waters makes significant investments in local infrastructure – hundreds of millions of dollars, in fact – across the country. In addition, we spend millions of dollars each year caring for and monitoring our spring sources, and maintaining more than 21,000 acres of watershed land as open space, which helps to safeguard local ecosystems.*

***We also bring social and economic value to the communities where we operate.***

*We do this by creating high-paying jobs with good benefits, hiring local vendors, and paying local taxes, donating to local charities, employee volunteerism, and by sharing our experience in water resource management. We also invest in many community projects, from watershed protection to waste cleanup to emergency donations.*

## CLAIM

***Nestlé Waters is a big, international conglomerate, and does not care about our local communities.***

## FACTS

***We are an international company with a significant U.S. presence.***

*While Nestlé Waters North America is owned by Nestlé S.A., which is based in Switzerland, we are an international company with a significant presence in the United States. Our headquarters is based in Stamford, Connecticut, and we have more than 8,500 employees across the country, operating in 140 communities.*

***Our employees don't just work with the local community, they ARE the local community.***

*It is easy to forget, but Nestlé Waters North America, like any company, is made up of people who care about the environment and the well-being of their local communities, just like you do. They live, work and raise their families in the same communities where we operate, and for that reason, they are just as passionate as you are about protecting their neighbors and the natural resources of the area.*

***We are committed to local causes and organizations and support them regularly.***

*We support many community organizations, locally and nationally, through donations of water, food, supplies and money. This includes over 50,000 lbs of food donated to food banks across the U.S. In addition, our employees volunteer in the communities where they live and work to support meaningful community projects including environmental cleanups along rivers and highways.*

## CLAIM

***Nestlé does not believe water is not a human right. I saw the video of their CEO being circulated online.***

## FACTS

***We absolutely, unequivocally believe that water is a human right.***

*Safe, clean drinking water is essential to human life, and we believe that access to it is a fundamental human right. Everyone should have consistent access to quality water to meet daily hydration, cooking and hygiene needs.*

***The online video claiming otherwise is over 13 years old and depicts someone who is no longer our CEO.***

*Critics use a video interview that our former Chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe gave in 2005 – over 13 years ago – to claim that he thinks all water sources should be privatized. This is simply false.*

***The video is edited by critics to be intentionally misleading in order to advance a false narrative about our company.***

*Mr. Brabeck's comments were taken out of context and engineered by critics to create an inaccurate soundbite that would scare and anger viewers.*

***Nestlé's current chairman has affirmed that the company believes water is a human right.***

*As recently as March 2018, Nestlé current Chairman of the Board Paul Bulcke publicly stated: "At Nestlé, we unequivocally believe that access to water is a basic human right. Everyone, everywhere in the world, has the right to clean, safe water for drinking and sanitation."*