



# Bottled Water Policy

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## Goals:



- Increase student awareness on total cost of bottled water.
- Educate students on the safety and economic benefits of tap water.
- Partial/full bottled water ban.
- Encourage students to use refill stations on campus.

## Achievements:

- Informational flier
- Pamphlet
- Researched:
  - Disadvantages of bottled water
  - Tap water quality
  - Cost of upgrading our water fountains
  - Other universities bottled water ban

# Down Sides of Purchased Water Vs. Tap Water



- Tap water is more strictly regulated and tested more than any branded bottled water.
- Tap water is protected by state and federal mandates, unlike bottled water.
- Bottled water is not tested for E. Coli, other regular bacteria testing, and is not required to produce quality reports.
- Tap water is tested every 4 hours, bottled water every week.
- Cost of production for tap water is \$0.0015/gal, whereas cost of production for bottled water is \$10.00/gal.

## Down Sides of Bottled Water:

- It takes 3 liters of water to produce a 1 liter plastic water bottle.
- The environmental cost of bottled water is 120 grams of greenhouse gases per container.
- The average American drinks 215 bottles of water per year.



**80% of recyclable water bottles end up in landfills every year.**

# How much does Roosevelt University spends:

## REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES:

- In 2016 there were 3,000 21oz bottles ordered at \$1.74 each.
  - TOTAL: \$5,220
- 3,000 24oz bottles ordered at \$1.21 each from Your Partner Promotions.
  - TOTAL: \$3,630

## PLASTIC BOTTLED WATER:

- During the school year Food Services Inc purchases 40 cases weekly for \$6 each.
  - TOTAL: \$240/weekly \$11,520/yearly.
- Each case holds 30 water bottles.
  - TOTAL: 1,200 bottled water/weekly 57,600 bottled water/yearly.

# Northwestern University



- In 2011, Northwestern introduced the "We Will" campaign to initiate a strategic plan to achieve its mission.
- Its mission (Contribute to the solutions for renewable energy and a sustainable environment and to how public policies and economic incentives promote implementation of new technologies and practices.)
- Over 1,000 Northwestern students have signed the petition for Northwestern University going bottled water-free.
- All old drinking fountains replaced with new water bottle refilling stations.
- Became Water Bottled-free on April of 2016.



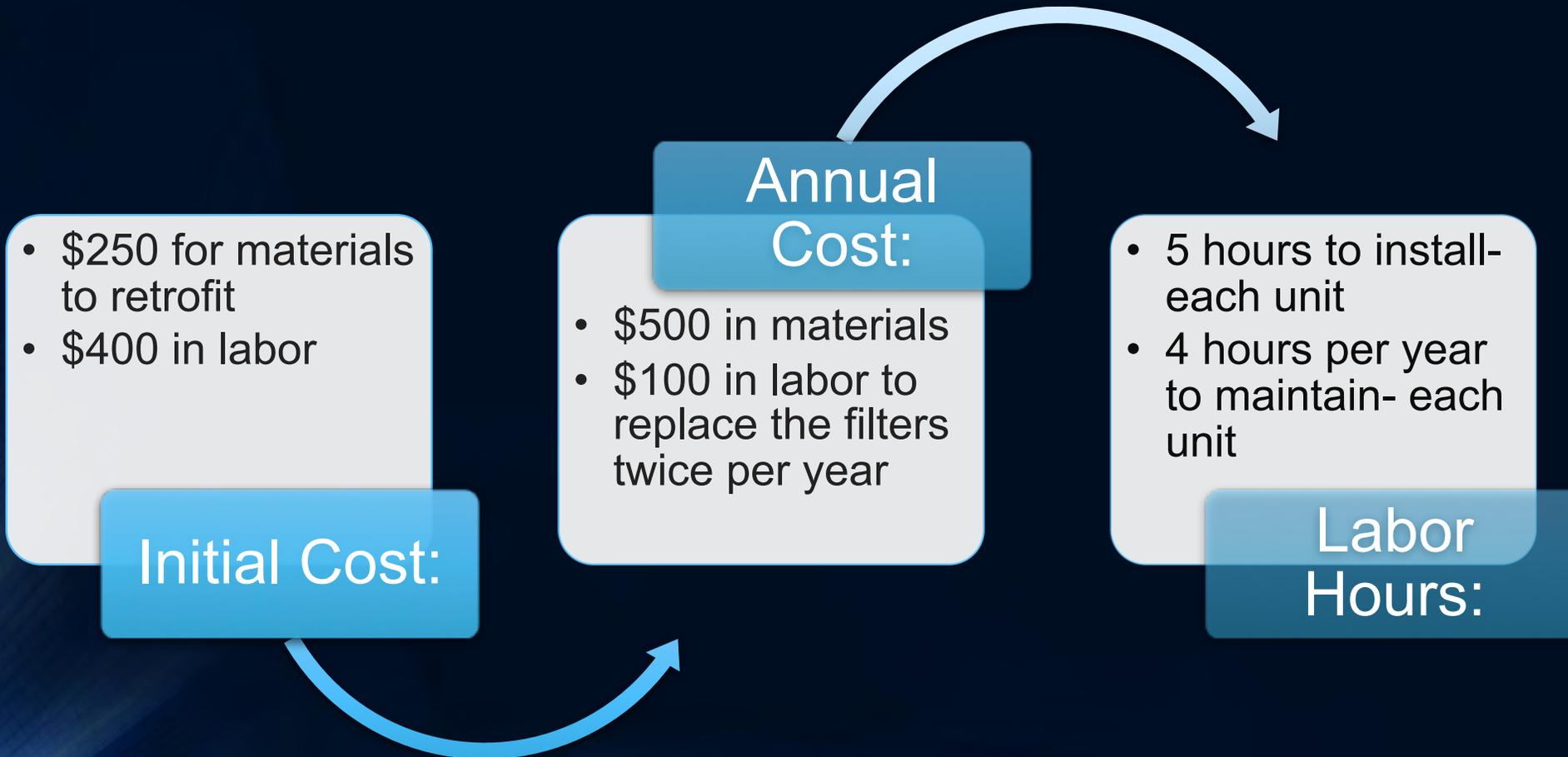
- Loyola officials have so far installed about 35 water filling stations around campus at a cost of about \$2,000 each
- First bottled water ban phase began in fall 2012, with water bottles gone from dining halls and services, such as Rambler Room and Union Station, and the second phase began in spring 2013 with water bottles gone from vending machines.
- Loyola University Chicago began encouraging students to drink tap water by giving all freshmen reusable bottles last fall and installing more refill stations around campus throughout this past year.

# Oakton Community College

- Oakton's "Ban the Bottle" campaign took place November 1st, 2016
- These innovations were powered by students in an Honors course and carried on by Students for Social Justice
- The purpose of these initiative was to draw awareness to the social implications and environmental impacts of the bottling process
- They will no longer be selling bottled water in the cafeterias, vending machines, or at catered events.
- To help promote the use of the refill stations, or as they call them, "Hydration Stations", Oakton tested the water quality of their fountains and provided students with the results.
- Oakton has provides students with a detailed listing of all of the water fountain stations located on both campuses so students are aware of where they can refill their bottles.



# Retrofitting Fountains:



## RETROFIT COST PER UNIT:

- Initial cost \$650
- \$600 yearly maintenance fee



## GOOSENECK COST PER UNIT:

- Initial cost \$225
- No maintenance required



# If we install 5 Retrofitting Units and 10 Gooseneck Units:



5 Units



10 Units

# Water Quality: City of Chicago Water Test

- The MCL (Maximum Contaminate level) is the highest allowable level a specific contaminate can be present in the water.
- Chicago water is well below every acceptable level of any contaminants currently being tested for.
- As you can see below, radioactive contaminants like Combine Radium are way below the MCL with level of .84, with the MCL being 5.
- Because these test results are made public, anyone can see that Chicago water is one of the safest in the state of Illinois

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS						
COMBINED RADIUM (226/228) (pCi/L) Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	5	0.84**	0.5-0.84	-	2/11/2014
GROSS ALPHA excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L) Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	6.6**	6.1-6.6	-	2/11/2014

# Alternatives to buying Bottled Water:

- Let's work together to increase student body access to reusable water bottles and promote use of our fountains and refill stations
- With at least ONE filtered water fountain every two floors, and a total of 12 filtered water fountains between the AUD and WB building there are plenty of opportunities to refill a reusable water bottle.
- Roosevelt University currently has six filtered water fountains.  
LOCATION: AUD 2nd, 5th, 7th and Library.  
WB 2nd & 15th floor.



## Partial Bans

### Bottled Water Policy Options:



- Prohibiting the university from using student funds to purchase water bottles, and/or prohibiting departments from using department funds from purchasing them.
- Banning the sale of bottled water at catered events or vending machines and replacing them with Roosevelt's empty water bottles

## Full Bans

- Banning completely the sales of bottled water where any items are sold on campus
- Providing alternatives is important: Giving away Roosevelt's empty water bottles to incoming and transferring students



# How can you help?

- Supporting even partial bans in small steps can have an immense impact on our university's wastefulness!
- By using the campuses refill stations and bringing your own refillable container can help slow down the sales of bottled water.
- Spread the word!

# Who can help sponsor some of our goals?

- Alumni.
- Ian Somerhalder Foundation- Funded and created the Think Outside the Bottle campaign.
- Plastic Pollution Coalition- Guide for schools going plastic free
- Nic's Organic Fast Food (for the Schaumburg campus specifically, they are local near to it)



# Water Bottle Ban

Be a sustainability activism pioneer!

**GO GREEN**  
ENJOY TAP WATER

GREENING THE PLANET

Push back against corporate privatization of fresh water sources!

Livia Dugo  
Briana Alvarez  
Ivan Robles  
Nicole Braus

Roosevelt University  
ACP 350

[www.roosevelt.edu](http://www.roosevelt.edu)

# HELP WANTED

## How Can YOU Help?

- Supporting even partial bans in small steps can have an immense impact on our university's wastefulness!
- Support keeping single-use water bottles out of specific campus venues, and/or restricting the use of departmental funds for purchasing bottled water are both feasible.
- We can encourage our school to sever ties with their Socratic sponsorship—instead of making a corporation becoming GREENS!
- Bring your own refillable water bottles! Familiarize yourself with our refill station.
- Spread the word! Tell your friends how important this issue is and why they should stop buying bottled water. (and bring our friends, too!)

### Down Sides of Purchased Water Vs. Tap Water

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Bottle water is not tested for E. coli, other regular bacteria testing, and is not required to produce quality reports.

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Cost of production for tap water is \$0.0015/gal, whereas cost of production for bottled water is \$10.00/gal

40% of all bottled water is taken from municipal water sources (TAP WATER). 2 of the 3 most popular brands in North America come from tap water.

### Downsides of Single-Use Water Bottles:

- It takes 3 liters of water to produce a 1 liter plastic water bottle.
- The environmental cost of a single-use plastic bottle is 120 grams of greenhouse gases per container.
- The average American drinks 215 bottles of water per year.
- 80% of recyclable water bottles end up in landfills every year.

### Alternatives to Buying Single-Use Bottles

- Let's work together to increase student body access to reusable water bottles and promote use of our fountains and refill stations.
- With at least ONE filtered water fountain every two floors, and a total of 12 filtered water fountains between the AUD and WB building, there are plenty of opportunities to refill a reusable water bottle.
- Roosevelt currently has six filtered water fountains located in AUD 2nd, 5th, 7th and Library, in WB 2nd (dining room) & 15th floor.

Roosevelt University

# HAPPY HOUR

ALL DAY-EVERYDAY-FREE

Filtered water fountains @ RU located in AUD on 2nd, 5th, 7th, & library floors.  
In WB 2nd & 15th floors



PosterMyWall.com

## References:

- Bottled Water Facts. (n.d.). Retrieved April 24, 2017, from <https://www.banthebottle.net/bottled-water-facts/>
- January 05, 2016 Andrew Postman. (2016, December 15). The Truth About Tap. Retrieved April 24, 2017, from <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/truth-about-tap>