

Plastic bags can add up in nations landfill sites

By Polly Fisher

DEAR POLLY — Here are a few suggestions for anyone wanting to help our environment:

- Request paper sacks for grocery bagging.
- Buy milk in paper cartons.

Use paper bags for all your dry trash (we put our wet trash in empty milk cartons or in the compost bin).

Refuse plastic bags at convenience stores, video stores, etc. whenever your purchase can fit into a purse or backpack.

Reuse produce bags by keeping a few tucked in your purse for when you

go to the store.

Use cloth diapers, diaper service or the new biodegradable disposals.

Buy pop, beer, etc., in aluminum cans or returnable glass bottles.

Open the dampers on airtight wood stoves a bit in order to burn the wood more completely, if your stove has no catalytic converter. — CLAIRE

DEAR CLAIRE — While we have printed many of these pointers before, I really appreciate the opportunity to remind folks again of how we can minimize the impact our trash has on the environment.

One comment on diapers: Even the new biodegradable diapers, although less harmful than ordinary dispos-

ables, take up too much room in our landfills, and the bacteria and some viruses in the used diapers can be polluting. I firmly believe that cloth diapers, whether you wash your own or use a diaper service, are cheaper, more environmentally safe, and more comfortable for your baby.



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