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It is contrary to rational thinking, to intentionally ignore the massive scientific data gathered for years about the effects of plastics in our waterways, wetlands, woods, and now in our food chains.

In a real way, we have become "One with our Garbage."

Single-use plastics are a fossil fuel product. They do not decay or biodegrade. Instead, they release microplastics into the oceans, rivers, and streams and have been detected in our foods -- especially fish that ingest these microplastics. We are part of the food chain. Every plastic spoon, straw, and bag contributes huge amounts of this toxic matter into our lives through our foods and waters. This is not a theory or a conspiracy -- it's scientific fact. Switching to more sustainable materials is entirely viable and necessary -- such as paper, bamboo, wood and corn.

There are many ways to offset or reduce global plastics pollution. One of the easiest is to ban single-use plastics in our great state of Maine. There is no excuse. It's the 21st century. Let common sense, scientific information about health impacts, and helping to keep our world safer for future generations be our guide moving forward! The argument that it's too expensive is nonsense. In the long run, the safety of drinking water and foods will only become worse.