

# NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

## Possible Headlines:

*Tobacco Litter is More Than Just an Eyesore*

*Tobacco Litter is Toxic Waste*

*Tobacco Toxins Get Into More Than Just Your Lungs*

Take a short walk down the street, through a park or a beach and you're bound to see it... cigarette butts, cigar tips, even cellophane wrappers and packaging, also known as...*tobacco litter*. Environmental cleanups consistently report cigarette butts as the number one picked up item. More than 12,000 cigarette butts were collected along Maryland beaches during a recent International Coastal Cleanup. Many people don't see cigarette butts as litter and don't realize their toxicity – leading some people to believe disposing of their tobacco on the ground is harmless.

## The truth is cigarette toxins get into more than just our lungs.

Cigarette filters contain cellulose acetate – a plastic material that makes butts slow to degrade, if they degrade at all. Tobacco litter is more than just an eyesore; it's toxic waste leaching heavy metals and chemicals such as lead and cyanide into our environment, poisoning our water and our communities where we live, work, and play. Tobacco litter is an issue that deserves increased awareness to promote healthy and safe communities.

Help raise awareness about the toxic tobacco litter problem and provide another good reason to quit smoking or not start at all—for the health of your lungs, your community, and the environment!

For more information on the toxicity of tobacco litter and ways you can help, visit: [www.NoTobaccoLitter.com](http://www.NoTobaccoLitter.com).

If you or a loved one are ready to quit tobacco use, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit: [www.SmokingStopsHere.com](http://www.SmokingStopsHere.com).

Tobacco litter hurts our planet. No butts about it.  
**NoTobaccoLitter.com**

