

Earth Day Essay
Leland and Gray

Why We Need to Take Action Against Littering

By Christina [REDACTED]

Have you ever picked up litter before? If you did, have you ever realized how litter has a terrible impact on our environment? There are many different reasons why litter is bad for our environment. I want more people to take action against littering.

My first reason why littering is bad for the environment, is that littering is dangerous to our environment! For example litter kills a lot of our wildlife. The ways that our wildlife dies from litter are animals either getting stuck in litter or thinking that it's food. When animals die due to litter we lose natural predators and other important organisms in the life cycle. We also lose really important animals for our environment. The important animals that we lose are turtles, dolphins, and whales. Finally litter can kill or stunt plants from growing. When litter stunts plants from growing they are altering key ecosystems properties. Altering ecosystem properties is dry soil, and covering high light availability. This is ruining the habitats all around the Earth!

In addition to that littering can also cause diseases to spread. As a result if you pick up or touch litter incorrectly you will get sick. This also happens when you injure yourself when picking up litter. Also little insects that are known as Vectors contaminate litter. When contaminated litter is picked up it causes humans to get sick. My last reason on how litter causes diseases is that pollution is caused by litter. Litter is a cause of air pollution because 40% of litter is burned into the air. As a result, toxic air is released. Littering is also a reason for land pollution and water pollution. When litter starts to dissolve it releases chemicals and microparticles. When this happens there are a lot of problems. One problem is that when people drop cigarette butts on the ground the chemicals arsenic and formaldehyde are released onto earth. When these chemicals are released they can poison our moors and freshwater sources.

Finally littering in our state of Vermont has been well managed by the people call to action. However, there is still work to be done according to the Vtdigger "Railroad tracks are, for whatever reason, collectors of litter," Alberghini said, "but it is illegal to walk on railroad tracks, so we ask that people don't clean up the railways." This is concerning and there is still work to be done in Vt.

These reasons are what make Earth day so important. Being aware of our impact on the environment can help us to take action!

My sources:

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