



# TOBACCO AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Commercial tobacco just doesn't impact your health, it harms the environment as well. Before commercial use, tobacco products must be produced and processed. This production of tobacco causes widespread environmental degradation throughout the world. According to *Truth Initiative*, an estimated **766,571** metric tons of cigarette butts make their way into the environment every year.

E-cigarettes can be more harmful to the environment compared to cigarette butts. E-cigarette waste cannot biodegrade and when disposed improperly, the cartridges can break down into microplastics and toxic chemicals. The e-cigarette waste can eventually end up in storm drains which can pollute waterways and wildlife.

**75% of smokers throw their cigarette butts on the ground or out of a car window.**

For More Information Visit:  
[https://truthinitiative.org/sites/default/files/-media/files/2021/03/Truth\\_Environment%20FactSheet%20Update%202021\\_final\\_030821.pdf](https://truthinitiative.org/sites/default/files/-media/files/2021/03/Truth_Environment%20FactSheet%20Update%202021_final_030821.pdf)

**9** It can take at least nine months for a cigarette butt to degrade.

Cigarette butts are the most highly littered items on roadways, retail areas, storm drains, construction sites, and recreation area in the United States.

