

# Dear Smokers,

A lot of people have been asking you not to smoke. We are simply asking you not to litter. Your cigarette filters are not biodegradable in any meaningful sense. They are made of plastic fibers (not cotton) and can take decades to biodegrade. Toxic chemicals trapped in the cigarette filter leak back into our environment as littered cigarettes get washed into storm drains, rivers and lakes, causing harm to aquatic life. Littered cigarette butts pose a serious fire hazard and are, of course, just plain ugly to look at. More important than the fact that littering your cigarette butts is illegal, it reflects a lack of respect for your neighbors, friends, coworkers and others in the community.

The solution is simple. Carry a pocket-sized portable ashtray (available free on our web site) to dispose of your cigarettes. Or create a makeshift ashtray from film canisters, mint tins, or other suitable items. When in your car, use your car ashtray rather than flicking butts out the window. Before you light up, take just a few seconds to think about how you will dispose of your cigarette. There is no good reason to litter cigarette butts or anything else. We are asking you to break the habit. Thanks for caring.



## Please Don't Litter!

[www.cigarettelitter.org](http://www.cigarettelitter.org)

[www.keeplovelbeautiful.org](http://www.keeplovelbeautiful.org)