



A GUIDE TO SCRAPPING LITTER

• ONTARIO'S DAY OF ACTION ON LITTER •

WHERE DOES LITTER COME FROM?

Litter can come directly from people throwing their used products, packaging and waste on the ground. It can also come from poorly managed waste bins, sewage systems, and lost equipment in industries like fishing.

POINT SOURCE POLLUTION

Where the pollution or litter can be traced to its source
Example: air pollution from a factory



NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION

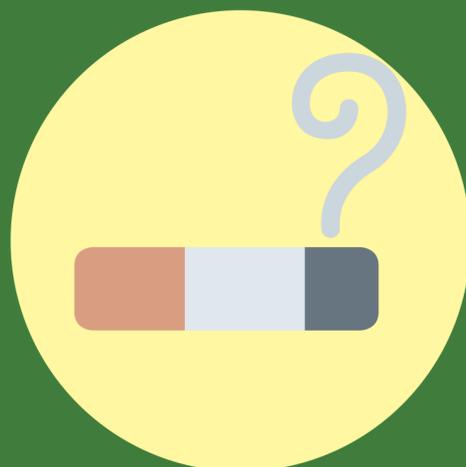
The pollution or litter could have come from multiple unknown sources
Example: Fertilizer run-off from many farms



WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF LITTER?



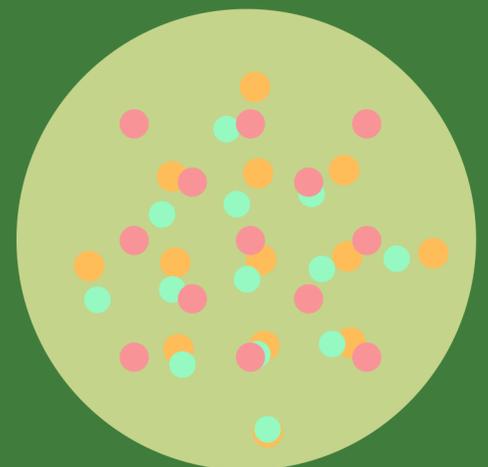
Food Wrappers



Cigarette Butts



Plastic Bottles & Caps



Tiny Plastic

HOW DOES LITTER AFFECT ONTARIO SPECIES?

Fill in the boxes with examples of how litter may affect different kinds of animals

Fish & Mussels

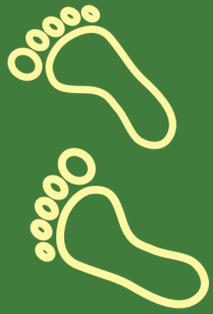
- Plastic can often end up in water systems through rain run-off that brings litter into waterways
- Small plastic can often be ingested by native fish species
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Reptiles & Amphibians

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Mammals & Birds

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STOP LITTER IN ITS TRACKS!



Organize your own Clean-up Event

Safe Clean-up Requirements

- 1) Garbage Bags
- 2) Gloves
- 3) Litter Count Sheets
- 4) Clear Recycling Bags
- 5) Volunteers
- 6) Adult Supervision

Be sure to respect all public health guidelines

Need Supplies?

Ask a local hardware store if they're willing to donate garbage bags and other supplies!



Be a Scientist!

Use the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up Card to help scientists track types and amounts of litter found!

Pick your location!



Find a safe area in your community that has a lot of litter! It's great to find an area with a water source so you can have an impact on aquatic species and terrestrial species. If you pick an area with a water source (i.e. river, lake, stream) you can register your event with the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup! They have more resources to make your clean-up a success!



PREVENT LITTER AT THE SOURCE!



Keep Your Trash Secure

Make sure your garbage and recycling bins are tightly secured with a lid, so none of your waste ends up as litter from the wind! This is especially important when throwing away newspapers and loose papers.



Using Less Plastic

Reduce the amount of plastic you use. An easy way is to bring reusable bags to the store to avoid using plastic bags! Try to buy products that are packaging-free or that you can buy in bulk.



Educate Others!

Help others understand the damaging effects of litter on native species as well as natural resources. You can help others by explaining the problems with 'biodegradable' litter and how it can endanger native species, especially near roads or highways!



The Toronto Zoo is committed to a world where wildlife and wild spaces thrive. Check out our website for more resources about at risk species and what we all can do to protect animals and their homes.

<http://www.torontozoo.com/fightingextinction>