CIGARETTES AND CIGARETTE BUTTS CAN START FIRES

Did you know that about 900 people die in the US each year in fires started by cigarettes? Also about 100 of the fire deaths every year are children and non smokers. Nationally, annual human and property costs of fires caused by careless smoking total about $6 billion. In 1997 alone there were more than 130,000 cigarette related fires. Fires caused by cigarette butts destroy habitats for animals, homes, and people. Many animals lose their young, their homes, and even their food due to cigarette fires. This isn’t good for our environment or the wildlife.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CIGARETTES

There are 1.1 billion smokers in the world today, and if this rate keeps up there will be 1.6 billion smokers in the world by 2025

A typical manufactured cigarette contains approximately 8 or 9 milligrams of nicotine

Ambergris, otherwise known as whale vomit is one of the hundred of possible additives used in manufactured cigarettes

Radioactive lead and polonium are both present in low levels in cigarette smoke

Half of all long-term smokers will die a tobacco-related death

Tobacco use is expected to claim one billion lives this century unless serious anti-smoking efforts are made on a global level.

There is enough nicotine in 4 or 5 cigarettes to kill an average adult if ingested whole.

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SAY NO TO SMOKING!

Kick Butts Out
Say NO To Smoking! It can make you a happier, healthier person

CIGARETTE BUTTS
Cigarette butts are an ecological concern around the city of Sand Point. They are everywhere and they occupy the ground especially around local businesses. Most local businesses try to have a cigarette butt disposal can or bucket outside, but some do not offer these containers. Please don't throw your cigarette butts on the ground, in the places you work or the places you reside. Please try to make or purchase a cigarette butt disposal container.

Effect On Wildlife
Cigarette butts are an endangering threat to wildlife. Filters have been found in the stomachs of fish, birds, whales and other marine creatures who accidentally mistake them for food. Also, the chemicals in cigarette butts leak out and are deadly to small animals like water fleas. The toxic chemicals leaked from discarded cigarette butts present a lethal biohazard to the small animals at one butt per two gallons of water.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CIGARETTE BUTTS
Cigarette butts may look like cotton but they are in fact made from a form of plastic called cellulose acetate. One cigarette butt on average can take anywhere from 18 months to 10 years to decompose. Cigarette butts are designed to absorb some of the toxins in cigarette smoke, so when they are discarded they contain tar and toxins which makes them contaminate the ground and water.

EFFECTS ON CHILDREN
Many small children play outside and tend to pick up cigarette butts and put them in their pockets or put them in their mouths. The U.S Center for Disease Control (CDC) Studies have shown many small children ages six months to two years have ingested cigarettes or cigarette butts. One-third have experienced illness such as vomiting. Other symptoms include nausea, gagging, and pale or flushed appearances.

COST OF LITERING
If 13 landscapers, who are supposed to be planting flowers and pruning shrubs, spend ten hours of picking up cigarette butts it is an estimated cost of $150,000. Some department employees spend at least $30,000 to pick up cigarette butts.

EASY WAY TO MAKE A BUTT CAN
An easy way to make a cigarette butt canister is to take a five gallon bucket or coffee can, cut a hole in the lid. Then tie it to an object so it doesn’t fly away. Put some sand or gravel in the bottom. Once it is full you can either empty it out in a garbage bag and start again or dump the whole thing and make another one.