

## Littering Must Stop!

Whether you're ashamed to admit it or not, everyone has littered at some point in their life. Even if you dropped something small, you don't realise the damage you could do. Littering contributes to two types of pollution: water and land.

Oceans and rivers are the homes of various aquatic life, including fish and plants. When rubbish is dropped, it can find its way to the water. It sinks down to the deep sea and lives with the sea creatures. It could potentially trap, choke and kill the sea life. Imagine a fish, swimming peacefully. It mistakes a plastic wrapper with food, and eats it, choking to death. Do you really want to be responsible with that? Are you really so lazy that you can't put your waste in the bin? Is it really too much work to walk a few metres in the park to a bin? I didn't think so. However, it's not just you who is responsible. In some places, the way rubbish is disposed of by waste collectors (known as a binman) are disgraceful. For example, this clip shows officials clearing out rubbish collected on a bridge and dumping it into the river beneath it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7j2rm0nQL5g>

Not only aquatic life is being affected, however. Land creatures are suffering from pollution because of littering also. Land pollution not only hurts animals, but it also puts humans in danger. Littering can contaminate the ground below it such as soil, threatening public health.

Littering is doing more damage than you realise, but there are ways we can stop it. We should have more waste bins around to encourage people to dispose of rubbish properly. We should have more awareness on the consequences, possibly posters on bins. Currently, since we are all in lockdown, we can assume the littering rates will be going down, as we can't go outside to have the opportunity of littering.