



Littering

Defining litter and littering

- Litter is any waste item abandoned in a public space. Littering is the act of dropping litter.
- Litter is found everywhere in our environment. It is found in the playground and nearby streets. It is found in parks and along our highways. It can be found in our waterways and oceans. It finds its way into such places either directly or indirectly. People, for example, can abandon food wrappers and drink bottles/cans when they finish a take-away meal, or the wind can blow discarded wastes long distances.





Litter dropped in the street can be washed in drains and eventually find its way into oceans where it can hurt wildlife or wash up on beaches.



Litter, especially discarded
plastics, is harmful for
animals in eaten or
entangled in it



Toxins from plastics can also enter the food chain with often harmful effects.

Types of littering behaviours

90%ING

Most items are put in the bin, but some are left behind



FLINGING

Throwing or dropping items with no apparent concern



FOUL SHOOTING

A missed throw at a litter bin



GRINDING

Grinding items into the ground and leaving them there



UNDERSEATING

Placing items under the seat at sporting stadiums, cinemas or events



UNDERTAKING

Items are buried, often in the sand at the beach



WEDGING

Items are stuffed into gaps between seats and other places



BRIMMING

Going halfway by putting butts and gum on the bin rim but not all the way inside



CLEAN SWEEPING

When arriving at a table where others have littered, sweeping items onto the ground



IMPROVISING

Putting items in objects that are not bins (cardboard boxes, plastic bags or beverage containers) and then leaving them behind



THE SNEAKY DROP

Discretely littering and moving away as if nothing had happened



Positive littering behaviours

COMPACTING

Stuffing materials into a full bin



TRAIL BLAZING

Going out of your way to find a bin



COACHING

Prompting people to do the right thing with the disposal of their item



THE ASSIST

A pick-up if a foul shooter misses



MARSHALLING

Coordinating a clean-up



INTERVENING

Suggesting others pick up litter they have dropped



CHASING

Running after litter that has blown away



PO-IT-YOURSELF

Bringing your own containers to take your litter home for appropriate disposal



VOLUNTEERING

Cleaning up after others litter



Copyright *Community Change*, 2003. Cartoonist Kerry Millard.

Draw you own
anti-litter
campaign
poster!





Doing the right thing!

