



# CIGARETTES ARE NOT BIODEGRADABLE

9

It takes nine months for a cigarette butt to degrade.



Did you know that cigarette filters are made of cellulose acetate? When cigarettes are not properly disposed of, they can end up in streets and water areas. This plastic ingredient can only degrade under severe biological conditions, such as in sewage collections areas. Cigarette butts that end up on sidewalks, roads, beaches will NOT biodegrade. If exposed to the sun, cigarette butts can break down into smaller pieces and dilute into water and soil areas. Eventually, these areas of diluted plastic pieces are contaminated.

1,531

As of October 2017, there are 1,531 parks that prohibit smoking.

317

There are 317 municipalities that prohibit smoking on beaches.

For more information visit:

[https://truthinitiative.org/sites/default/files/media/-files/2021/03/Truth\\_Environment%20FactSheet%20Update%202021\\_final\\_030821.pdf](https://truthinitiative.org/sites/default/files/media/-files/2021/03/Truth_Environment%20FactSheet%20Update%202021_final_030821.pdf)