

# Cigarette Litter **Facts**

## Cigarette Litter is **Harmful**

- 💧 Cigarette butts are **harmful** to **waterways** and **wildlife**. Rain washes butts into storm drains where they are carried into a nearby stream or river.
- 💧 Nicotine is among the **deadliest** of all plant products.
- 💧 43 constituents of tobacco smoke are known **carcinogens**.
- 💧 Cigarette butts are hazardous to **animals** and **marine life** when they mistake filters for food.

## Cigarette Litter is **Costly** to Clean Up

- 💧 VDOT spends \$6.5 million of our **tax money** on litter clean up every year.
- 💧 Smokers litter **4.5 trillion** butts annually.

## Cigarette Litter **Doesn't Disappear**

- 💧 95% of cigarette filters are composed of cellulose acetate, which persists in the environment for years or even decades.

