

5 WAYS

smoking and vaping are
poisoning our planet



1 The growing of tobacco alone has a huge environmental impact: 200,000 hectares of forests are cut down and 22 billion tonnes of water are used every year.

2 Every year, about 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are littered worldwide, making them the most littered item in Canada and globally. These butts contain plastic, nicotine and toxic chemicals and can take up to 10 years to break down.

3 The heavy metals (like lead and mercury) from discarded vapes can leech into the water and soil and be ingested by people and animals, where they can build up over time, potentially reaching toxic levels.

4 Disposable vapes are single-use plastic devices that never fully break down, contributing to the 33 billion tons of plastic waste that enter the oceans every year. Eventually, they'll break down into microplastics, which pose long-term risks to ecosystems.

5 Both vaping devices and electric vehicles use lithium-ion batteries. Since lithium is a non-renewable resource, the more vaping devices sold, the less lithium is available to build electric vehicles.