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No one can drive down the road without seeing litter lacing the highway. Can you imagine what your world would look like without litter in it? I believe it is possible to live without water pollution, sick animals, and smothering plants brought on by people littering our Earth. Littering is a problem that all of us can work together to fix. Litter is not only extremely harmful, but it also makes our world look ugly and trashy.

Water pollution is defined as: "The contamination of water bodies such as lakes and rivers. This form of environmental ruin occurs when pollutants are directly or indirectly discharged into water bodies without adequate treatment to remove harmful compounds." Water pollution affects the entire planet, but we fail to see it because it doesn't affect us directly. There are many people around the world that have no access to safe drinking water due to water pollutants. We rely on clean water to survive, yet right now we are heading toward a water crisis. Our lakes and rivers are being threatened by tainted pollution.

Another problem with littering is it causes extreme health concerns for animals of all kinds. Marine life is depleting at a fast rate. Many of the endangered animals in the ocean are losing their homes and sources of food because of the billions of litter we produce. Over one billion tons of litter ends up in the oceans every year. This number is staggering. Trash laying on the ground is also harmful to animals. Some animals swallow our trash and can choke. Broken glass can cut the feet off animals. Some animals can even get stuck in bottles and cans.

Our plants also suffer from litter by means such as gasoline and consumers' waste getting in our soil. The soil absorbs the toxins and deters the growth of plants and crops. Litter can also cause fires in the forest which burns our vegetation and trees to the ground. Too much litter can smother grass by not allowing any sunshine.

In conclusion, I'd like to just point out that we spend over 11.5 billion dollars every year in the fight to clean up and stop littering. It's very scary to know that 75 percent of people have admitted that they have littered in the past 5 years. This is a fixable problem that every person on the planet can chip in to fix if we would just do it. Our animals, plants, and water would be much more clean, safe, and healthy. Not to mention that our Earth would be seen for the beauty it was meant to have.