



# Littering is a serious problem

Litter does not belong in nature. It pollutes the environment, harms animals and endangers people's health. For example, plastic waste, the most common type of litter that ends up in the environment, can find its way into water bodies. There it harms plants and animals and eventually ends up in our food.

Every year, Helsinki spends millions of euros to clean up litter. This means less money available for other things.

A clean environment encourages people not to litter, while a dirty one makes people more likely to do so. Everyone's small actions have a greater impact than you think! Let's keep the environment clean together.

# What you can do – Five tips

1.

Do not litter – waste belongs in a bin, not on the street or in nature.

2.

Avoid unnecessary consumption. Second-hand clothes and items save both money and the environment. If you buy something new, choose sustainably manufactured products.

3.

Recycle your waste! Sort your waste at home, at work and in public spaces. If you do not know how to sort something, consult [HSY's waste guide](#).

4.

Avoid buying unnecessary plastic. For example, use your own drinking bottle and bring your own shopping bag.

5.

Take part in litter picking events. Picking up even one piece of litter a day means one less piece in nature. You can borrow litter pickers from libraries.



[Ask questions or give feedback about littering.](#)



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