

Every little bit matters when it comes to litter. There is so much trash being thrown all over our beautiful state of Pennsylvania. The reason for this is mainly laziness. Littering is a problem to humans, animals, and plants, so all the environment! It needs to be stopped. It can be stopped by Litter Hawks, like me, my classmates, and hopefully after this essay, YOU!

More than 90 percent of people who live in Pennsylvania know that litter is a problem that needs to be solved. Our roads are littered with around 1,000 of pieces of trash per mile. That's a LOT of litter! Only 3 percent of people who live in Pennsylvania believe that littering is okay, 40 to 50 percent of Pennsylvanians litter. Some people do not realize that they are littering. They think just a small piece of trash doesn't matter. But it does. Every little bit matters.

I hate it when I see trash of careless people in my favorite places. Like the trails my family loves to hike. We always bring a trash bag with us when we go on walks or hikes. We went just down our road once and brought back home multiple full bags of trash. And we live in the hills! Once again, every little bit matters to us.

Even though some people might say, "Oh, it's just a tiny wrapper," or, "It won't harm anything. It's so little." Well, more than 85 percent of the trash that makes up our litter is under 4 inches in size. All the little stuff builds up! We need to stop littering. Every little bit *does* matter.

One way we can help stop littering is by taking a trash bag with us whenever we go on walks. If we forget a trash bag, or thought that the walk would be too short for there to be trash, pick up whatever trash you can fit, and keep it somewhere until you can put it in a trash can, or better yet, a recycling bin! Recycling bins could be made more available in public places like schools, offices, and really anywhere! Then all of the trash wouldn't be ending up in landfills. Or polluting our land. When you find a trash can that is already full, and you need to throw something out, find a different trash can. Don't make someone else pick it up when the can overflows, because, remember, every little bit matters!

So this is why every little bit matters. And we *can* make a difference. As a Litter Hawk, it is our job and responsibility to pick up trash, refrain from littering, and persuade others to do the same. Every little bit matters! Keep our beautiful state clean. There is so much we can do! Go Litter Hawks!

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