

January 1, 2018

This is Lieutenant Larry Depee, Commander of the California Highway Patrol, Crescent City Area. In 2016 alone, the CHP issued more than 3,100 citations for littering throughout California. This includes trash thrown from vehicles as well as unsecured loads being dumped on the roadways. And like I said, that was only California, this number does not include the other 49 states. So as you can see, this is a pretty substantial problem.

So here are some basic tips to help you avoid being a part of the problem, and instead, be part of the solution. Carry a litter bag in your vehicle so you can dispose of litter properly. Always cover and properly secure loads on trucks and pick-ups. Never discard a cigarette or other tobacco product along the roadway.

While it is always illegal, during the dry summer months it is especially dangerous for motorists to throw cigarette butts out of their vehicles. They are an extreme danger during that time of year, as one cigarette can ignite dry roadside brush into a wildfire.

If you're interested, there are numerous anti-litter campaigns that you can join to help clean up, and keep your community clean and litter free.

If you would like more information regarding litter prevention, the laws surrounding littering, or any other information, please feel free to contact us. Additionally, please follow us on Facebook for the most current news and information from the California Highway Patrol.

Thank you.