



HARD FACTS: VAPING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Every parent and educator in Australia needs
these facts to protect young people from
Vaping's environmental harm

From Australia's leading vaping prevention educators



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What you need to know

One million vapes enter Australian landfills every week. Each device creates toxic waste that will last 1,000 years and can contaminate 1,000 liters of water.

The statistics

Scale of waste in Australia

- In Australia, about 1 million vapes are being taken to landfills each week
- Over 90 million illegal vapes with no regulation enter Australia each year
- If you lined up the disposable vapes sold in a year, it would stretch for 11,665 km - long enough to span the length of Australia 3 times
- In 2022, e-cigarette waste accounted for approximately 30% of all litter collected on Australian beaches



Long-term environmental damage

^1000 YEARS

E-cigarette waste contains plastics, electronic circuitry, and batteries that can take up to 1000 years to decompose

- The production of one e-cigarette is estimated to generate about **0.5 kg of CO2 emissions**
- **Humans may ingest** up to a credit card's worth of microplastic a year, partly due to the breakdown of discarded vapes

^1000 LITERS

A single disposable vape can contaminate up to 1000 liters of water if disposed of improperly

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What you need to know

- The **lithium-ion batteries** in e-cigarettes pose a fire risk in waste processing facilities and landfills
- Indoor air quality is affected by vaping, showing increased levels of nicotine, carbonyls, and other pollutants harmful to health



Queensland, Australia reported up to 5 fires per day caused by Vapes in 2023

Global environmental impact

22 BILLION

The tobacco industry uses about 22 billion tons of water globally each year, equivalent to about 8.8 million Olympic-sized swimming pools

- Since the 1970s, 1.5 billion hectares of mainly tropical forests have been lost due to tobacco production, contributing up to 20% of annual greenhouse gas increases

84 MILLION

The tobacco industry releases about 84 million tons of CO₂ into the Earth's atmosphere annually



What you can do

1. Support proper e-waste disposal programs
2. Report illegal vape sales and improper disposal
3. Join local environmental clean-up efforts
4. Learn about safe disposal methods
5. Share these environmental facts with young people



What this means for you

Every disposed vape becomes toxic waste that will outlive its user by centuries. These devices aren't just harming health - they're creating an environmental crisis that will affect generations to come. The damage extends from local waterways to global climate impact.



CONTACT US

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