The National Cigarette Butt Litter Taskforce and A Clean Country

Guiding the delivery of a product stewardship response to tackle cigarette butts in the Australian environment

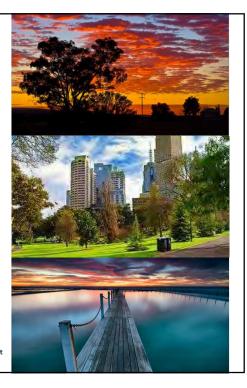


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Adaptation

Environmental Support

12 October 2023



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Setting the scene

Product stewardship in a highly regulated environment



The problem

- Cigarette butts are plastic and contribute to global plastic pollution.
- Butts are commonly reported to be the number one litter issue, numerically by litter count.
- Clean-up costs are significant.
- · Littered butts release toxins in the environment and are often linked to causing bush fires.

The challenges

- Product stewardship calls on relevant parties to share responsibility in reducing the environmental impacts through all stages of a its life cycle.
- A tobacco industry product stewardship arrangement will not be recognised or accredited by the Australian Government due to competing legislation and other barriers.
- Australian Government will not endorse, support, form partnerships with or participate in activities of the tobacco industry described as socially responsible, citing Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- Total ban on any form of tobacco industry communication.
- Stakeholder engagement opportunities can be somewhat limited.
- Rise in contraband/counterfeit tobacco products.
- Butt littering behaviour needs to be corrected not just cleaned up.



Introducing the Cigarette Butt Litter Taskforce

A collaboration of responsible parties and leading experts in delivering litter avoidance and community engagement programs

















4 companies that for legal reasons cannot be publicly recognised in this forum

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Our Vision

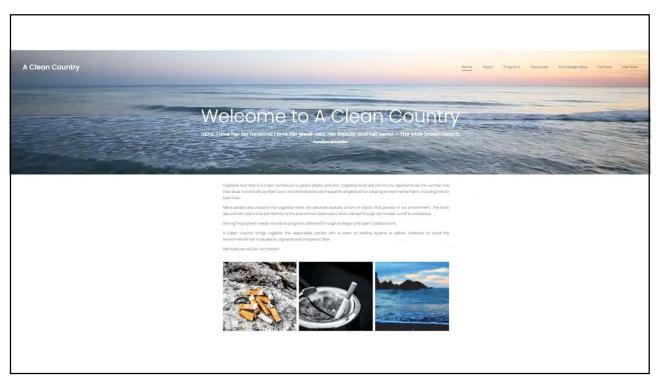
To live in a clean country free of cigarette butt and plastic litter

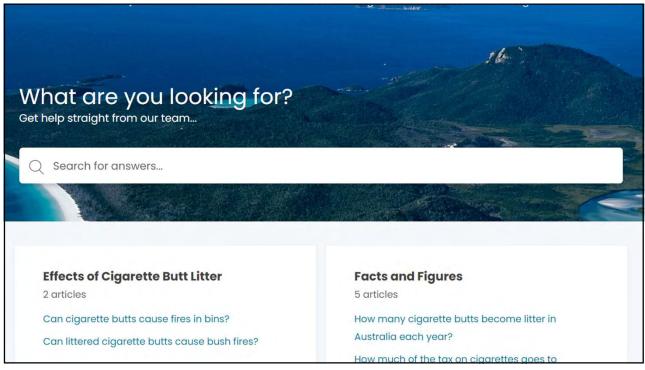
We aim to do this by sharing knowledge on where and why cigarette butt and plastic litter occurs, to communicate the environmental impact and to implement effective programs to eliminate it at the source.

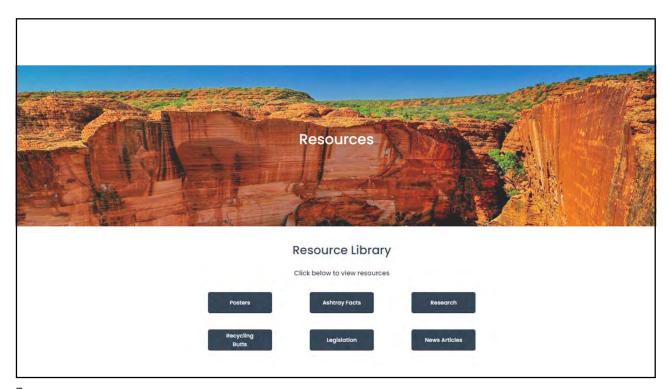
We will achieve success by being pragmatic and maintaining a committed team of leading experts to guide the best solutions.

We are focused on addressing the negative impacts cigarette butt and plastic litter has on the natural environment and in working collaboratively to improve the environmental health of our country.









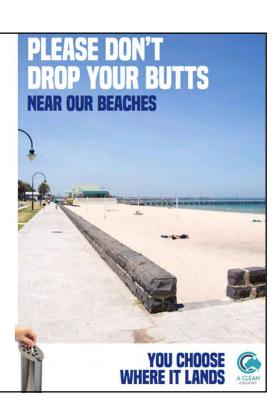


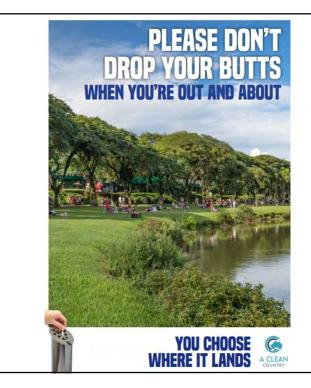
The posters will use positive imagery which depicts the vision of our goals

- Shock and scare campaigns only have your attention for a very short time.
- They often result in the audience turning away with limited behavioural change occurring.
- We want the posters to get the attention of smokers and relay the anti-littering message.

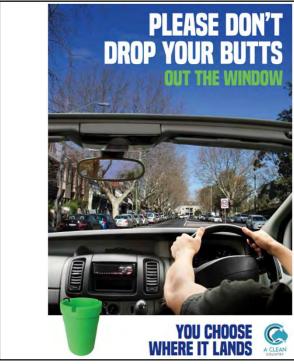
Priority areas include

- 1. Clean Roads
- 2. Clean Parks
- 3. Clean Pubs and Clubs
- 4. Clean Beaches
- 5. Clean Shops
- 6. Clean Events
- 7. Clean Public Transport Hub
- 8. Clean City
- 9. Clean Community

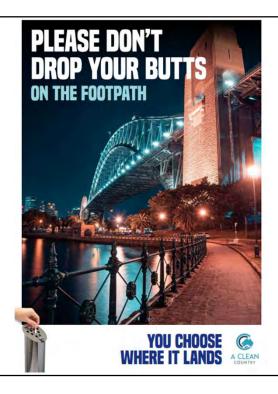


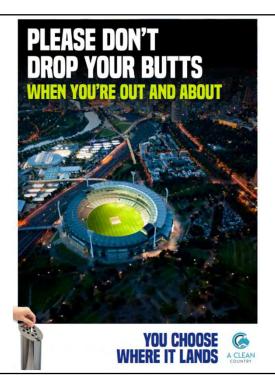












Exploring other opportunities for smoker education

Introduce the concept of including some graphic on-pack messaging to help smokers understand that butts are plastic and have significant negative impacts on the health of our environment.

Whilst the philosophy of A Clean Country is to engage smokers via positive imagery of clean environments, on-pack messages should show shocking imagery of polluted environments similar to health warnings.



