

Anti-litter campaign

RSPCA inspectors regularly rescue pets and wild animals trapped or hurt by discarded litter, as everyday objects can become hazards to animals. Protecting pets, farm animals and wildlife from harmful rubbish is straightforward – simply dispose of your waste responsibly.

Your challenge

As a pack, conduct an anti-litter campaign using the information we've given you here. With the help of your leader you might want to design a poster and put some up in your local area. You could also email it to your friends and give a talk at your school.

Glass bottles and drink cans



Glass breaks easily and can cause serious injury to animals or even death. Little animals are curious and will investigate everything they find. They may crawl into bottles and cans and then be unable to escape so they will starve or drown.

Solution: Thoroughly clean all used bottles and jars, then take them to a bottle bank – they should never be left lying around.

Plastic can loops

Animals can get entangled in discarded plastic can loops, which may cause sores or choking.

Solution: Always cut open the plastic loops before putting them in the bin.

Balloons

Once balloons burst, animals may mistake them for food and can die if they eat them.

Solution: Avoid letting your balloon go. Cut any used balloons into small pieces before putting them in the bin.

Plastic containers

Attracted by leftovers, animals will forage inside food containers and may get trapped.

Solution: Remember to completely remove the lid from small containers and cut the container in half. Try to recycle your plastic.



Elastic bands

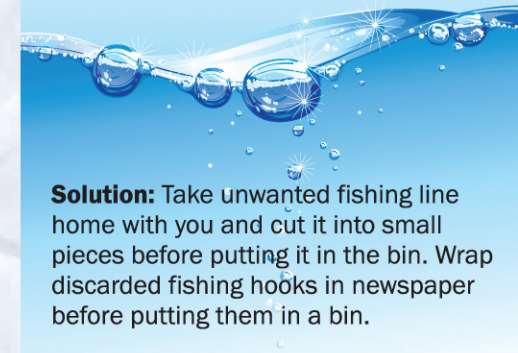
Elastic bands can get caught around the necks of small animals and the beaks of birds. They can also be swallowed, causing the animal to choke.

Solution: Whenever possible, re-use elastic bands or cut them open before putting them in the bin.



Fishing tackle

Fishing line can get caught around a bird's wings, neck and beak. Hooks can also cut into skin and muscle.



Solution: Take unwanted fishing line home with you and cut it into small pieces before putting it in the bin. Wrap discarded fishing hooks in newspaper before putting them in a bin.

Food cans

Small animals such as hedgehogs may get their heads trapped inside cans and starve – a half-open lid can cut.



Solution: Thoroughly clean the can so that animals aren't enticed inside, then completely remove the lid, drop it inside and pinch the top shut. Recycle cans in a can bank – aluminium cans never disintegrate so each one may be a hazard to animals for many years to come.

Plastic bags

Animals may climb inside plastic bags and suffocate, or eat them and choke. A single bag can cause the death of more than one animal.

Solution: Tie a knot in all plastic bags and dispose of them properly. Better still, use reusable bags instead.



cubs

A big thank you
to the RSPCA



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