

Successfully Butt Free!!



L-R: Angie Schock, Jeff Nyman, Mayor Gallagher, Zack Beaudoin, Chanel Wise, Stephanie Koke, Jessica Belzile

On Monday October 27, 2008, the Blind River Advocates Against the Tobacco Industry (BRAATI) of the Algoma Youth Action Alliance sought to generate awareness to the large amount of cigarette butts littering our community and do something about it.

Cigarette butts are one of the most littered items in the world and their effects on the environment are disastrous as the toxic chemicals poison our soil and seep into our waterways. Cigarette butts take an average of over 25 years to biodegrade. They can also harm small animals and birds who confuse the butts with food, eat them and get sick from being poisoned and/or digestive blockages.

Youth representatives cleaned up behind WC Eaket, picking up over 4000 cigarette butts. Mr. Gallagher also came out to demonstrate the town's support for the initiative. Since there is one tree destroyed to manufacture 300 cigarettes, youth representatives will be planting 13 trees in the Spring.