

ELTAT! Reps Support Elliot Lake Smoke Free Parks Bylaw

On Thursday May 28, 2009 the Elliot Lake Teens Against the Tobacco Industry (ELTAT!) of the Algoma Youth Action Alliance sought to support the City's smoke free parks and beaches bylaw by cleaning up the large amount of cigarette butts

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 can take an average of over 25 years to biodegrade. They can also harm small animals and birds that confuse the butts with food, eat them and get sick from being poisoned and/or digestive blockages.

Youth representatives cleaned up at Roman Park Ave and at the Minors Monument, picking up over 2300 cigarette butts in a short amount of time. Since there is one tree destroyed to manufacture 300 cigarettes, youth representatives will be planting 8 trees at White Mountain Academy.



Left to Right:
Myriam Cyr,
Zach Cranney,
Jon Dickey,
Haley Wilcox,
Corina Artuso,
Jordan Cheff,
Joanna
Dickson, Evelyn
Vegeris and
Kelly Nebreda



ELTAT! reps showcase the cigarette butts we picked up



ELTAT! reps hold bucket up and show we want a clean environment!

To further demonstrate support for the City of Elliot Lake's Smoke-Free Parks Bylaw, the Algoma Youth Action Alliance's ELTAT! partnered with the City of Elliot Lake and Clean North to plant trees at White Mountain Academy on Saturday May 30th 2009.

Since one tree is destroyed for every 300 cigarettes manufactured, ELTAT! reps planted 8 trees to replace those destroyed from the approximately 2,300 cigarette butts cleaned up. This activity helped heal some of the environmental damage caused by tobacco industry products while generating awareness about the environmental destruction caused by tobacco industry products in our community.



Left to Right:
Haley Wilcox,
Kelly Nebreda,
Evelyn Vegeris,
Rick Bull,
Joanna
Dickson and
Katherine
Artuso-Hadley
(in front)



The group digs and shovels to prepare room to plant the 8 trees



Corina Artuso and Kelly Nebreda work together to plant the last tree.