



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

How long do you think the item will last before it decomposes (rots)?
Choose a time period from the list below. Some answers are used
more than once.

PICK FROM THE FOLLOWING

1-3 Months

10-20 Years

200-400 Years

1-5 Years

100 Years

More than 500 Years

ALUMINUM CAN



GLASS BOTTLE



METAL CAN



CIGARETTE BUTTS



PAPER CUP



BANANA PEEL



DISPOSABLE DIAPERS



WOOL SOCKS



6-PACK HOLDER



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

ANSWER KEY

Roadside litter is more than unsightly. It can last anywhere from months to hundreds of years. Trash needs four main ingredients to decompose, moisture, oxygen, light and heat. Buried in a landfill, trash lasts much longer because it is deprived of light and heat.

Roadside litter, exposed to all four elements, decomposes at a faster rate. These estimates are based on roadside litter.

PICK FROM THE FOLLOWING

1-3 Months
1-5 Years

10-20 Years
100 Years

200-400 Years
More than 500 Years

200-400 years

ALUMINUM CAN



2-5 years

More than 500 years

GLASS BOTTLE



2-5 years

100 years

METAL CAN



1-3 months

CIGARETTE BUTTS



More than 500 years

PAPER CUP



1-5 years

BANANA PEEL



More than 500 years

DISPOSABLE DIAPERS



WOOL SOCKS



6-PACK HOLDER

