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\*Photos Available Upon Request\*

CONTACT:
Alex Payne
TerraCycle
732.567.7922
alex.payne@terracycle.com

# TERRACYCLE® PARTNERS WITH RESIDENTS FORWARD TO RECYCLE CIGARETTE BUTTS IN PORT WASHINGTON

Locals Stomp-Out Cigarette Litter with Help of Volunteers and TerraCycle Recycling Program

**PORT WASHINGTON, New York (April 8, 2019)** – TerraCycle, the world's leader in the collection and repurposing of complex waste streams, has joined forces with Residents Forward, a grassroots community organization dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of Port Washington, to collect and recycle cigarette butts throughout the city's Main Street area.

"The Town is always looking for new initiatives to protect our bay and safeguard our drinking water." Said Town Supervisor Judi Bosworth. "With the help of our volunteers, TerraCycle's cigarette recycling program can help keep our streets clean while preserving the habitats of local wildlife."

The cigarette recycling pilot is the newest initiative of the "Give a Litter Bit" and "Clean Green Main Street" campaigns and engages both the Town of North Hempstead and the Greater Port Washington Business Improvement District (BID) in the waste collection process. Residents Forward funded the purchase of the cigarette butt receptacles, Town of North Hempstead officials have agreed to hang them throughout Port Washington and BID will be working with Spectrum Designs to empty the receptacles. The collected cigarette butts will then shipped to TerraCycle for recycling where they will be separated by composition, melted into hard plastic and remolded for use in new products like shipping pallets.

"We hope the Litter Bit cigarette recycling pilot spreads awareness that cigarette butts are litter too," said Betsy Liegey, Executive Vice President of Residents Forward. "By working together, we can make it easier to keep our downtown clean and protect our Bay."

Implementation of the pilot initiative will see six cigarette collection receptacles mounted near the railroad station along the town's highly-trafficked Main Street. In addition to the use of these receptacles, the "Give a Litter Bit" campaign asks community members and groups to take steps to reduce litter, including securing garbage bags during curbside pick-up, volunteering for litter-removal efforts, recycling through the town's program and through organizations like TerraCycle and spreading the word on social media.

"Cigarette butts strewn on our sidewalks detracts from the inviting shopping and strolling experience our local businesses count on," said Mariann Dalimonte, Executive Director Greater Port Washington BID. "We are proud to sponsor the emptying of these receptacles along with other programs to keep our streets clean, including our Keep Port Clean team that operates April through October."

TerraCycle has collected hundreds of millions of cigarette butts globally. Additionally, through its various recycling programs, it has engaged over 200 million people across 21 countries to collect and recycle more than eight billion pieces of waste that were otherwise non-recyclable.

### **About Residents Forward**

The mission of Residents Forward is to inspire and unify the residents of Port Washington to protect and advance the vibrancy, resiliency, sustainability, and beauty of our Peninsula. Rooted in the principle that our environment, health, and well-being are interdependent, Residents Forward imagines and advances the critical projects that make the Port Washington peninsula beautiful, sustainable, and resilient. With the support of local government and community organizations, Residents Forward is proud to have achieved the following: Long Island's most comprehensive groundwater sustainability study, the creation of "green" education for students from elementary through high school, including the groundbreaking Port Washington Youth Climate Summit, clean-up programs run regularly to keep our water and streets litter free, visioning the Waterfront, including the expansion of shoreline trails, the addition of new parks, gardens, and trees in town, and finally the creation of The Mural Project, featuring artwork by local artists depicting the things that make our community special.

# **About Spectrum Designs**

Spectrum Designs is a custom apparel business with a social mission – to help individuals with Autism lead productive and meaningful lives through the world of work.

# About TerraCycle

TerraCycle is an innovative waste management company with a mission to eliminate the idea of waste®. Operating nationally across 21 countries, TerraCycle partners with leading consumer product companies, retailers, cities, and facilities to recycle products and packages, from dirty diapers to cigarette butts, that would otherwise end up being landfilled or incinerated. In addition, TerraCycle works with leading consumer product companies to integrate hard to recycle waste streams, such as ocean plastic, into their products and packaging. TerraCycle has won over 200 awards for sustainability and has donated over \$44 million to schools and charities since its founding 15 years ago. To learn more about TerraCycle or get involved in its recycling programs, please visit www.terracycle.com.

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