



# INK & TONER CARTRIDGES IMPACT ON THE EARTH

A typical ink cartridge will take up to **1,000 years** to decompose in a landfill.

More than 375 million empty & unused ink & toner cartridges are improperly disposed of in landfills every year

## Landfill Decomposition Rates



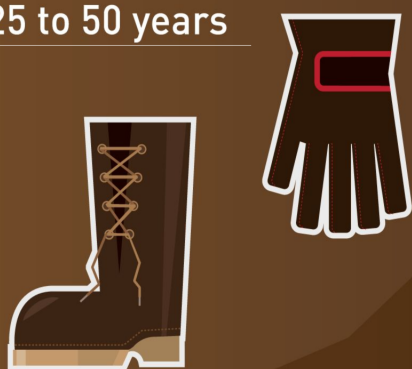
**Paper**  
2 to 5 months



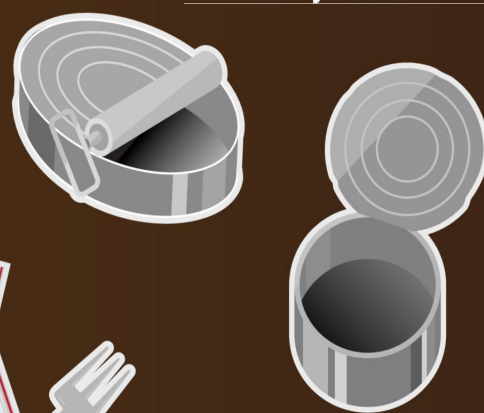
**Cotton**  
1 year



**Leather**  
25 to 50 years



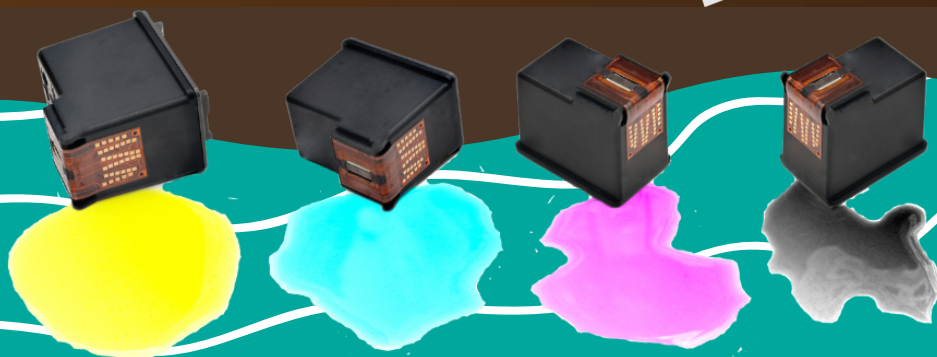
**Aluminum**  
100 years



**Plastic**  
Hundreds of years



**Ink Cartridge**  
1,000 years



It takes up to 5 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> to create a new ink cartridge



Every year unused ink cartridges release heavy metals into the groundwater.