

Illegal Dumping

This factsheet provides information on what is illegal dumping, and the impact illegal dumping has on our environment.

What is Illegal Dumping?

In Queensland, illegal dumping is the unlawful deposit of any type of waste material of an amount of 200 litres in volume (about the volume of an average wheelie bin) or more.

Common illegally dumped items include:

- household rubbish and garden waste;
- household goods (such as whitegoods, TVs, mattresses and furniture), including items left on footpaths;
- building waste (construction and demolition materials);
- tyres, chemical drums and paint tins;
- asbestos.

Is illegal dumping damaging our environment?

Littering and illegal dumping is a serious issue. It pollutes our environment and significantly diminishes the use, enjoyment, and value of our public places for residents and visitors. It can facilitate the spread of disease and pest species, harm wildlife, people, and livestock.

Littering and illegal dumping costs Queensland businesses and communities millions of dollars each year in waste management, including clean-up expenses. Queenslanders want and deserve a clean and safe environment with the majority saying it's not okay to use our environment as a rubbish dump.

Are there fines for Illegal dumping?

Fines for illegal dumping are more than:

- \$2,000 for an individual and up to \$133,450 in court;
- \$6,500 for a corporation and up to \$667,250 in court.

Let's Work Together

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 contains

provisions specifically allowing members of the public to do their part by reporting littering and illegal dumping offences to Council.

What Do I Report?

When reporting illegal dumping it is important that you take down as many details as possible including:

- time, date, place and address;
- vehicle/vessel registration number, make and model, colour or distinguishing features, (stickers, dented panels, modifications);
- description of the person (including location in the vehicle, clothing, and gender).

If it is safe, take photos, but for your own safety don't approach the person depositing the waste.

Council can issue an infringement notice to the registered owner of a vehicle/vessel based on your report. If you discover illegal dumping in your travels, please do not disturb the site. It can hinder evidence collection and may contain hazardous materials.

Upon receiving the report, Council's waste management officers will contact complainants to confirm the details and obtain a witness statement. To enable this, ensure that full contact details have been included in the report. All witness details are treated confidentially.

Further Information?

To find out further information or if you find illegally dumped material or witness someone littering from a vehicle, trailer, or vessel, you can contact Council via one (1) of the following methods:

- ✉ South Burnett Regional Council
PO Box 336
KINGAROY QLD 4610
(07) 4189 9100
- @ info@sbrc.qld.gov.au
- 👤 Visiting a Customer Service Centre