

ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LITTERING

Seasonal information targeting stormwater runoff and water quality issues from the Phase II Stormwater Management Communication Committee.

Marketing Season: All

ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LITTERING

What is illegal dumping?

Illegal dumping is the disposal of waste generated at one location and disposed of at another location without legal permission. Illegal dumping is the disposal of trash, tires, yard waste, appliances and other waste materials disposed of without the permission of the property owner.

Why do people illegally dump?

Ignorance of the law
 Avoid paying waste hauler fees
 Disrespect for other's property and the environment
 Laziness

Where do people illegally dump?

Unsecured vacant lots
 Remote spaces
 Public and Private properties
 Alleys, roadways and parking lots
 Abandoned buildings
 Outskirts of cities
 Poorly lit areas
 Areas with poor accessibility
 Waterways, including creeks, drainage swales, rivers & dry weather ditches

Why is illegal dumping a problem?

Illegal dumping can cause health hazards, including: Physical injuries from sharp and pointed objects, Diseases spread from rodents and insects, fires from flammable materials, Flooding from material blocking flood control channels and storm drains.

Economic concerns include: Decrease in property values and the expense to clean up.
 Pollutant loads in our storm water facilities

What can be done?

Report any illegal dumping to: Local police department or call the Solid Waste Management Program of the St. Louis County Health Department at 314-615-4130

What information is important when reporting illegal dumping?

Description of person (s) dumping
 Description of the vehicle and license plate if possible

Editors Note: Some cities may have adopted ordinances or requirements not included herein.

12/10

What was dumped?

Date of incident

Time of incident

Any photographs you may have taken

Clean up Efforts

Clean up days can be successful in ridding communities of problem areas. Some public or private landfill operators may lower or cancel the cost of taking a load of garbage to the landfill during a clean up event. St. Louis County, Missouri Stream Team and MSD can assist community groups in their efforts to clean up problem areas.

The St. Louis County Department of Public Works Problem Properties Unit cleans up unincorporated sites (incorporated if contracted with them for this service) and offers guidance to organize a neighborhood clean up.

Additional resources and links regarding Illegal Dumping.

Solid Waste Management of St. Louis County 314-615-4130

Missouri Department of Natural Resources offers a grant program for the cleanup of tires, etc. David Berger is the Planner for the St. Louis County District L and can be reached at 314-645-6753 or visit their website at www.dnr.mo.gov

Missouri Stream Team is a working partnership of citizens who are concerned about Missouri Streams – they can be reached at 800-572-2322 or www.mostreamteam.org

MSD supports stream clean up activities – contact the Division of Environmental Compliance at 314-436-8712

St. Louis County sponsors two events a year to bring your old motor oil, paint, varnishes, etc. – Visit their website at www.recyclesaintlouis.com

Your municipality can partner with MoDOT in the No More Trash Campaign – for more information visit the No More Trash Campaign at <http://mdc.mo.gov/nomoretrash/partners>

EPA Public Outreach information on illegal dumping control
http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/poll_7.cfm

Missouri State Laws: For Missouri Revised Statutes see:
<http://www.moga.state.mo.us/STATUTES/STATUTES.HTM>