



TAKE A STAND

fact sheet fly tipping

The Problem

'Fly-tipping' is the term used to describe waste that has been dumped onto land illegally. You may have seen cases of fly-tipping in Torbay, such as bin bags of rubbish left out for days or fridges dumped in hedges.

To protect people, the wildlife and the environment in general, there are rules about how waste should be stored and removed. All waste should be taken for disposal at an authorised landfill site. Waste should also be removed by registered carriers. Businesses that pay companies to have their waste removed can check that they are registered to do so by contacting the Environment Agency.

Fly-tipping is a form of anti-social behaviour that can have a negative impact on the local environment.

Because fly-tipping can make an area look rundown and neglected, it can affect how local people feel about their environment. Fly-tipping and other forms of environmental-crime such as graffiti and dog fouling can encourage even more anti-social behaviour in an area which can make some people feel scared and not very proud of their surroundings.

As well as damaging the environment, fly-tipping can be hazardous and harmful to

people and wildlife. Fly-tipping also spoils the look of our towns and countryside.

The Facts

- A new case of fly-tipping occurs every 12 seconds.
- £73.7m is the estimated clearance cost of illegally dumped waste reported by councils in 2006/07.
- Areas subject to repeated fly-tipping may suffer declining property prices and local businesses may suffer as people stay away.
- Over half (56%) of fly-tipping incidents reported were in alleyways.
- Black bags full of domestic rubbish account for 63% of all fly-tipping.
- 77% of fly-tips involved household waste.
- Most people fly-tip to avoid paying the disposal fee called the landfill tax. Household rubbish is already paid for through council tax, but commercial waste is not, and a charge generally exists to have this waste removed.

Source - Campaign to Protect Rural England / www.telegraph.co.uk

Break the Rules, Pay the Price

Because of the amount of damage that fly-tipping can have on the environment, the penalties for those caught fly-tipping are severe. Those that are caught could face an unlimited fine and up to five years imprisonment.





Take a Stand

The public are experts at knowing what goes on in their local community and by taking a stand and reporting incidents, more cases can be dealt with and those that do fly-tip may think twice about their actions.

When reporting an offence of fly-tipping to the Community Protection team, think about the following:

- The day, date, time and location of the tipping.
- How many people were fly-tipping and what they looked like.
- Any vehicle involved - its make, colour and registration number.
- What items were tipped.
- The amount that was tipped (e.g. a couple of black bags, a fridge etc).

Tips

The Bay Team's top tips for preventing fly-tipping are:

- Report cases of fly-tipping as soon as possible. This will help prevent further fly-tipping in the area and enable the waste to be cleared more quickly.

- If you are a business and use a company to remove your waste, check that the company is a registered waste carrier.
- If you or someone you know has large household items to get rid of, which can't be collected by the usual refuse collection service, the Council can collect items (for a reasonable cost).

To report an incident of fly-tipping in confidence, contact the Community Protection Team.

Join the Bay Team

If you have an idea as to how people could be encouraged not to litter and to respect their environment, contact the Community Protection Team at:

✉ community.protection@torbay.gov.uk
✉ Community Protection, Torbay Council, 1st Floor Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5EJ
☎ 01803 208091

To discuss bulky waste collection:

☎ 01803 402934

www.torbay.gov.uk/takeastand

