



HOW TO PREVENT OPEN DUMPING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

WHAT ITEMS ARE MOST OFTEN OPEN OR ILLEGALLY DUMPED?

- Construction and demolition debris (e.g., shingles, bricks, lumber, concrete and siding)
- Abandoned vehicles
- Used Tires
- Old appliances and furniture
- Bags of yard waste
- Motor oil, paint and other household hazardous waste items
- Old barrels



WHEN DOES OPEN DUMPING LIKELY TAKE PLACE?

- Typically after dark, particularly in poorly lit areas
- A study of open dumping cases in Detroit, MI showed that 72% of illegal dumping arrests occurred between 5:00 PM and 12:00 AM, and that 57% of all arrests took place on a Tuesday or Wednesday

WHERE DOES OPEN DUMPING MOST OFTEN OCCUR?

- Abandoned buildings
- Empty lots and pastures
- Lesser traveled alleyways and streets
- Along roadsides in rural areas
- Railroad sidings
- Bottom of ravines



WHY DO PEOPLE ILLEGALLY DUMP THEIR WASTE?

- Evade responsibility for paying disposal fees
- Avoid taking the time to manage waste properly
- Ignore problems caused by open dumping
- Unaware of disposal requirements



WHY IS OPEN DUMPING AN ISSUE?

- Health risks:
 - ✓ Physical injury (protruding nails, shards of wood or glass)
 - ✓ Air emissions (inhaling harmful vapors or dust)
 - ✓ Diseases carried by rodents, mosquitoes, etc.
- Stormwater runoff endangers water sources
- Damage to plants and wildlife
- Reduced property values
- Make community a less attractive place to live, work and visit

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO PREVENT OPEN DUMPING?

- Post signs warning dumpers of consequences if caught
- Undertake landscaping/beautification projects on vacant land
- Install lighting
- Place barriers (e.g., fences, locked cables and concrete dividers) in areas prone to dumping
- Indicate that the area is under 24-hour surveillance
- Clean up dump sites immediately to reduce the potential for others to dump
- Raise fines for those caught dumping illegally and give a portion of the fine to the person who reported the incident



HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY GET INVOLVED?

- Identify areas with high incidences of open dumping
- Prepare educational materials to make community residents aware of the problem
- Gather volunteers and work with police to form a community or neighborhood “watch” program
- Create a local hotline where citizens can report illegal activities
- Contact local businesses and agencies to solicit donations of cleanup equipment and supplies

TO REPORT OPEN DUMPING, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

ROCKFORD – 4302 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103 – (815) 987-7760 • DES PLAINES – 9511 W. Harrison St., Des Plaines, IL 60016 – (847) 294-4000
ELGIN – 595 South State, Elgin, IL 60123 – (847) 608-3131 • PEORIA – 5415 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61614 – (309) 693-5463
BUREAU OF LAND - PEORIA – 7620 N. University St., Peoria, IL 61614 – (309) 693-5462 • CHAMPAIGN – 2125 South First Street, Champaign, IL 61820 – (217) 278-5800
SPRINGFIELD – 4500 S. Sixth Street Rd., Springfield, IL 62706 – (217) 786-6892 • COLLINSVILLE – 2009 Mall Street, Collinsville, IL 62234 – (618) 346-5120
MARION – 2309 W. Main St., Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 – (618) 993-7200