



# Fly Tipping

*A cleaner neighbourhood. We all want it. We can all help to achieve it.*

## WHAT IS FLY TIPPING?

Fly tipping is the illegal dumping of waste. Typically it can be general household waste, domestic items such as fridges, beds and washing machines, garden waste, commercial waste such as builder's rubble, tyres and clinical waste. In fact, it could be almost anything dumped anywhere it shouldn't be. It is unsightly, unhealthy and expensive to clean up.

- Fly tipping in the UK costs taxpayers and private landowners an estimated £150 million every year to investigate and clear up.
- It is unsightly, attracts vermin, pollutes water courses, can cause a fire hazard and, in the case of hazardous wastes, can pose a serious threat to human health and wildlife.
- As with other things that affect local environment quality, fly-tipping may damage the local economy by damaging property prices and local businesses.

## FLY TIPPING AND THE LAW

The fly tipping of controlled waste is a serious criminal offence which carries a fine of up to £50,000 (unlimited if indicted to the Crown Court) or an offender can even be sent to prison.

Fly tipping is often associated with dumping waste from vehicles. In this case the person controlling the use of the vehicle can also be prosecuted, which means that it is possible for a prosecution to occur when only the vehicle, not the driver, is identifiable.

In addition to this, vehicles involved in fly tipping can be seized.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Council treats the growing problem of fly tipping very seriously and will prosecute anyone caught fly tipping waste.

We need you the public to help to spot problems as they happen and pass information to us promptly. People often don't want to become involved in other people's misdeeds. That's fine.

All we need is a little bit of information to get us started, like where fly-tipping has occurred.

**If we don't know about it, we can't deal with it.**

There are a few simple rules you need to follow to provide the best information possible, keep yourself safe and preserve the evidence;

**If you discover fly tipped waste after the tippers have left,**

please follow these simple rules:

- **Do not touch the waste:** fly tipped waste can be dangerous - it may contain syringes, broken glass, asbestos, toxic chemicals or other hazardous substances.
- **Visually inspect the waste:** try to determine what the waste consists of and how much there is.
- **Take note of its exact location:** and also, whether it is in or near water.
- **Do not disturb the site:** there may be evidence that could help identify the culprits and lead to their prosecution.
- **Tell us:** you can telephone us on **(01502) 562111** and pass on the details – or use the web reporting form on our website: [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk)

**You do not have to give your details** when you contact us about fly tipping but it may help us if we need to get back to you for further information about the location of the fly tip or more details of what you saw. If you do give us your details, we will keep them confidential.

### If you see someone fly tipping:

If possible, please make a note of:

- The day, date and time you saw the tipping.
- What you saw:
- How many people were fly tipping and what they looked like
- What they were actually doing
- Any vehicles involved - their make, colour and registration number
- Where were you when you saw the fly tipping:
- What kind of view you had
- How far away you were
- Weather and light conditions
- What was tipped:
- How much?
- What it looked like

**Remember** - Don't Put Yourself At Risk!

Then **tell us**: you can telephone us on (01502) 562111 and pass on the details – or use the web reporting form on our website: [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk)

### WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT FLY TIPPING

Waveney District Council is responsible for removing litter and fly tipping, or dumped rubbish, from **public land**. Public land includes roads, pavements, adopted passageways, council-owned car parks, parks and recreation areas, laybys etc. We will respond to fly tipping in these areas by clearing it up as soon as possible. While we are doing this, we will try to identify the source of the waste

and take appropriate enforcement action where possible. We work with the Environment Agency to identify incidents that may be linked to organised and systematic breaches of waste licensing law.

We will respond to reports of fly tipping on **private land** by investigating the circumstances and trying to identify the source of the waste where possible. We will negotiate with the land owner to get the waste removed and properly disposed. We have a wide range of legal powers available to help us achieve this but careful investigations can take time, and disposal can be very expensive. So unless there is a serious and imminent risk to public health or the environment, we may not be able to get the rubbish removed immediately.

### I WANT TO GET RID OF SOME WASTE

You can help reduce our impact on the environment by making maximum use of the available **recycling facilities**.

Items of household waste that you can't put into your wheelie bins can be taken to one of the **Household Waste Recycling Centres** run by the County Council. These are located at Blyth Road, **Southwold**; Fen Lane, **Beccles**; and Hadenham Road, South **Lowestoft** Industrial Estate.

**NB No trade waste or hazardous wastes** Other restrictions apply – if in

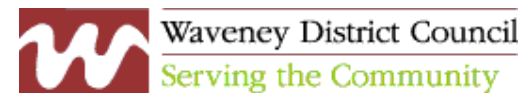
doubt, check first: (0845) 6066067 or online at [www.suffolccc.gov.uk](http://www.suffolccc.gov.uk)

**Large or bulky items of household waste?** phone (01502) 523468 for details of the Council's collections service (a small charge applies).

### CONSULTATION

We would like to know what you think about fly tipping. If you would like to make a comment, write to us at the address given below, or use the feedback form on our website at [www.waveney.gov.uk](http://www.waveney.gov.uk)

Supported by:



Issued by: **Waveney District Council, Town Hall, High Street, Lowestoft NR32 1HS**  
(01502) 523117  
July 2006