

Strategies to Deter Illegal Dumping

HALIFAX

Illegal dumping is the un-authorized disposal of materials in private commercial waste bins, on private property, crown or municipal land or other unoccupied land. Dumpsites can vary in size and contain a variety of material including, but not limited to construction and demolition debris (wood, shingles), furniture (sofa, chairs), appliances, household waste, vehicle parts and tires.

If your waste bins are outside:

- Place bins in a well-lit area where they are in view of staff or tenants.
- Post signage showing that the 'area is being monitored'.
 - Use minimal print that is able to be read from approx. 10 ft away.
 - Post signs at a height where they can be read, but not easily defaced.
- Install an enclosure with screening and a locked gate around bins.
- Cameras can be a strong deterrent if your budget allows.
 - Cameras should be as close to the monitored site as possible, while remaining inconspicuous.
 - Keep any photos or video to share with the enforcement officer.
- Motion sensing lights may also help to deter illegal activity, and provide better lighting for cameras



Identifying Illegal Dumping Activity

- Use the same type of bags for all waste from your property, including clear bags for garbage.
 - This allows you to easily identify bags that did not come from your tenants or staff.
- Encourage your tenants and staff to report activity such as strange vehicles.
 - Ask them to record the date, time, and description of the person, vehicle and license plate (if they can safely obtain). Videos or photos are the best evidence if you are able to get them.
 - Take photos of any visible information identifying individuals found in materials such as mail, shipping labels, fast food delivery receipts with phone numbers or address.
 - Leave evidence in place and call 311 right away to **REPORT**.
 - For safety reasons it is not recommended that you open bags to look for identifying information.



**If practical, locate bins inside your building:
out of sight = out of mind!**

Illegal Dumping on Unused Land

- Check your property often and if evidence is found (i.e., name/address or you have a video). **REPORT** to 311 immediately, even if it's the first occurrence.
 - Conduct checks at random times to maintain a presence and deter potential offenders.
 - Connect with owners of adjacent properties to coordinate checks and keep each other informed.
- Block off points of entry with a gate or boulder.
 - Before blocking entry, check with local fire department to ensure access is not required for emergencies.



- Post signs at any access areas, i.e., Area Is Being Monitored, No Trespassing, No Illegal Dumping



Report illegal dumping to 311, even if it's the first occurrence.