

HALIFAX

Illegal Dumping Enforcement Update

Halifax Regional Council
June 18, 2024

Solid Waste Resources

2021 By-Law Amendments

- Positioned municipality to address illegal dumping complaints
 - Incorporated sections of NS Environment Act and CBRM By-law
- Accountability
 - Reverse-Onus: Person identified is responsible for the waste.

Implementation

- Added 1 new FTE in Fall 2021
 - Develop subject matter expertise
 - Safe Work Practices
 - Education + Enforcement approach
- Launched promotional campaign
 - November 2021



Education & Outreach



Strategies to Deter Illegal Dumping

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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.

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Illegal Dumping Enforcement Statistics

	2022/2023	2023/2024
Cases Investigated	504	619
Primary Location	HRM Parks/ROW – 38% Residential Curbside – 31%	HRM Parks/ROW – 49% Residential Curbside – 17%
Insufficient evidence to action	244	326
Primary material type (frequency)	Household waste – 74%	Household waste – 76%
Education/Warning issued	97	121
Voluntary clean-ups by accused	54	46
Summary Offence Tickets Issued	27	35

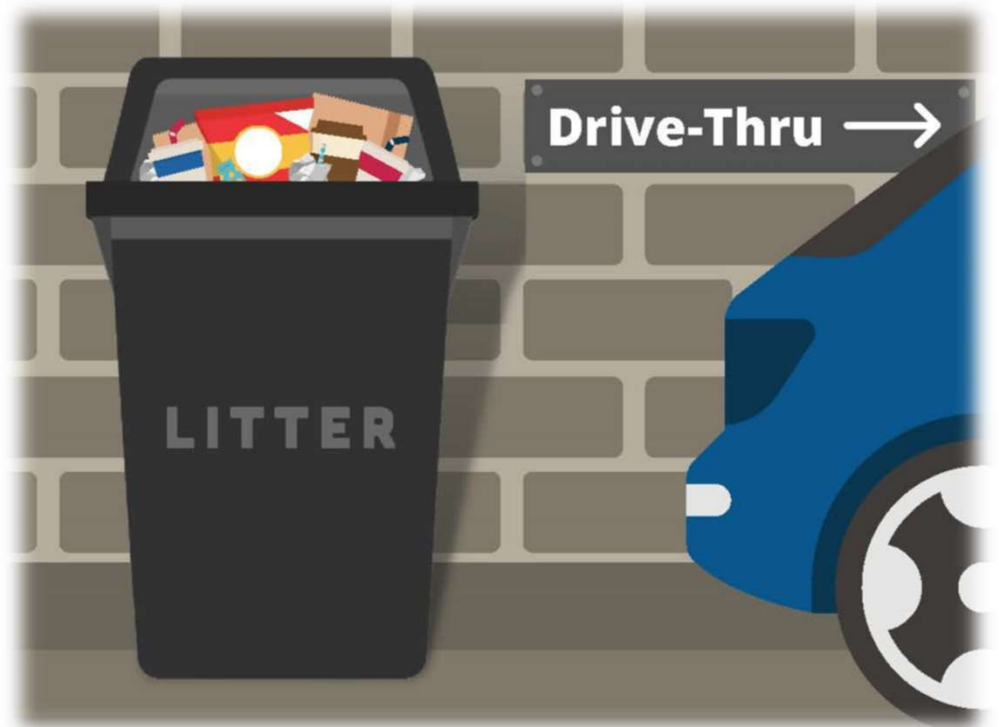
Success Outside the Numbers

- Collaboration and partnerships
 - Parks and IMO
 - Halifax Regional Police and RCMP
 - Halifax Airport Authority
- Property owners
 - Implementing best practices
 - Reduction in repeat offences



Drive-thru Litter Receptacles

- Effective April 1, 2022
 - Over 200 locations
- High rate of compliance on re-inspection

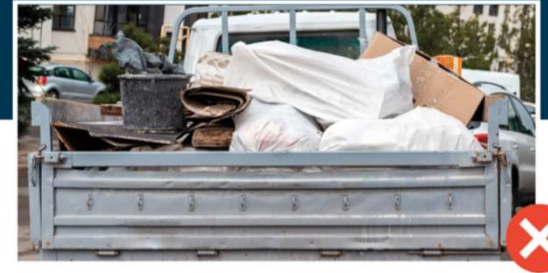


Secure/Tarped Loads

- Focus on waste facility
- Joint check-point with RCMP
- Pick-up trucks
 - ~52% compliance rate



Prevent Litter and Keep our Roads Safe



When transporting waste for disposal, material must be covered and secured to prevent litter. Material blowing off the back of an open vehicle is considered littering and creates unsafe road conditions.

By-Law Revision

- Definition of illegal dumping:
 - Include smaller quantities of waste (i.e. single bags)
 - Broader interpretation of where illegal dumping can take place
- Simplification of the description of 'person responsible' and information required to be provided to the investigating officer.

Questions

SHANNON BETTS

MANAGER - POLICY & ENFORCEMENT

SOLID WASTE RESOURCES | PUBLIC WORKS