

Help Stop Illegal Dumping of Trash in Butler County

Help Prevent
Illegal Dumping

**DON'T
WASTE OUR
OPEN SPACE**

Promote
AWARENESS

Butler County
Department of
Recycling &
Waste Management

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There are many thousands of illegal dumps statewide and in a survey conducted in Butler County in 2007 by PA CleanWays, 217 illegal dumps were identified containing about 316 tons of trash. Almost 90% of these sites were in our rural areas.



The illegal dumping of waste is YOUR Problem Because It:

- ◆ reduces the appeal of public places, including roadways, game lands, state parks and waterways
- ◆ kills aquatic life in our waterways, blocks drainage systems and causes flooding
- ◆ reduces property values and community pride
- ◆ endangers people, particularly when it includes items such as broken glass, hazardous chemicals, electronics or needles
- ◆ is a crime that attracts more crime
- ◆ is a fire hazard
- ◆ costs communities huge sums of money to clean up and uses YOUR tax dollars
- ◆ kills wildlife

People Illegally Dump Garbage for the Following Reasons:

- ◆ they don't want to pay for garbage service
- ◆ they have an uncaring attitude
- ◆ they feel it's more convenient for them than trying to dispose of waste properly



What Can You Do To Help?

Don't tolerate the dumping of any type of garbage in your community. If you spot dumping activity:

- ◆ Notify your local authorities about the problem. They may be able to help stop it.
- ◆ Organize a cleanup!

Resources:

PA State Police - 724.284.8100 (*Butler barracks*) The State Police will have jurisdiction if the violation takes place on public land, a state road right-of-way, or if the dumping is on public or private land that does not fall under local police jurisdiction.

PA Department of Environmental Protection - 814.332.6945 (*northwest regional office in Meadville*) – Call if you witness illegal dumping on public or private property. They do not respond to general litter complaints.

PA Fish and Boat Commission - 814.337.0444 (*northwest regional office in Meadville*)– Report littering or dumping of trash that lies on or near surface waters, particularly trout streams.

PA Game Commission - 814.432.3187 and 814.432.3188 (*northwest regional office in Franklin*)– Report littering or dumping on State Game Lands and on private property that is open to hunting.

PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry - 814.226.1901 (*district office in Clarion*)- Report littering or dumping in State Forests or State Parks.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Online Report Form:

<http://www.keeppabeautiful.org/IllegalDumpSurveys/ReportLitterandDumping.aspx>

Tri-County CleanWays- 724.658.6925 (*local office in New Castle*)



HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DECOMPOSE?

	Glass Bottle Up to 1 Million Years		Plastic Bag 10-20 Years
	Disposable Diaper 450 Years		Wooden Chair 5-50 Years
	Aluminum Can 80-200 Years		Waxed Milk Carton 3 Months
	Foam Plastic Cup 50 Years		Apple Core 2 Months
	Tire 50-80 Years		Newspaper 6 Weeks
	Plastic Food Container 20-30 Years		Orange or Banana Peel 2-5 Weeks



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