

## Put Trash Where it Belongs

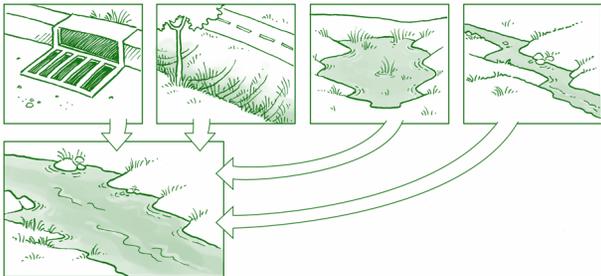
Reduce, reuse, recycle, or make special arrangements to dispose of trash.

Never dump trash onto the ground, into a catch basin or into a waterway.



Water directed to catch basins is not treated at a wastewater treatment facility.

Catch basins are direct connections to rivers and streams.



## Do not dump, and if you observe dumping, report it.

Local, state and federal anti-dumping laws may impose the following penalties:

- Fines and/or jail time
- Vehicle impoundment
- Cost recovery for site cleanup
- Liens on property
- Revocation of licenses or permits
- Community Service

## Environmental Reporting Line (734) 222-3800

For information about Washtenaw County Environmental Programs please contact:

**Office of the Washtenaw County  
Water Resources Commissioner**  
(734) 222-6860

**Washtenaw County  
Environmental Health**  
(734) 222-3800



Additional Resources:

### Waste Pickup Information

Contact your local city, township or village government

### Washtenaw County Recycling Guide

[washtenaw.org/recycling](http://washtenaw.org/recycling)

### Home Toxic Reduction Center

[washtenaw.org/hometoxics](http://washtenaw.org/hometoxics)



## Washtenaw County

# Environmental Reporting Line

(734) 222-3800



### Call to report:

- Illegal Dumping
- Smells from septic systems
- Suspicious discharges
- Spills of detergents & other wastes

**Evan N. Pratt, P.E.**  
Washtenaw County  
Water Resources Commissioner

[washtenaw.org/drain](http://washtenaw.org/drain)

# What is Illegal Dumping?

Illegal dumping is the improper disposal of solid or liquid waste through depositing or abandoning unwanted materials in ditches, in waterways, along roadways or on private property.

Waste oil, leftover chemicals, paint waste, old tires, appliances, construction and demolition waste, and even hazardous chemicals are illegally thrown into Washtenaw County's open fields, waterways and discarded in remote vacant areas of cities.



Illegal dumping impacts the environment, the character of neighborhoods and the quality of life of local residents. It causes safety hazards to the public and results in millions of dollars every year in cleanup costs.

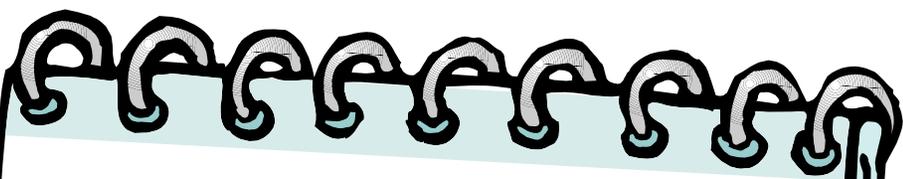


# Reporting is Important

Enforcement officials can't be everywhere at all times. It is essential that County residents provide additional "eyes and ears" for their community.

Environmental incidents typically have unusually high cleanup costs, and these costs are in part borne by taxpayers. Costs to human health also may result from environmental incidents.

County residents are responsible to be stewards of their natural environment. Report suspicious environmental activity, and also be conscious of how your own behavior affects the environment.



# What do you do if you Witness Dumping?

- If you witness someone in the act of dumping, or if the dumped material poses a danger to human health or the environment, **call 911.**
- If the dumped material is the result of a past action, call the **Washtenaw County Environmental Reporting Line at (734) 222-3800.** Calls are answered during business hours 8:30 a.m-5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday, and received by an answering machine during non-business hours.

## WHEN CALLING BE SURE REPORT THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

- WHO:** Description of offender
- WHAT:** Attempt to describe what was being dumped
- WHEN:** Time and date of occurrence
- WHERE:** Location of site and nearest intersection

- It's important to identify and report any notable vehicle markings, license plate number, and/or the make, model and color of the vehicle.
- Provide your name and phone number (anonymous reports have a tendency to be treated as a lower priority).
- Washtenaw County will assess immediate health and safety concerns, the environmental impacts from the incident, and work with responsible parties to address the concern.

**IMPORTANT**  
**Never confront a person engaged in an illegal activity.**  
**Never expose yourself to contamination.**