

Chapter 9.48
ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LITTERING

9.48.010 Unlawful dumping and littering

- (a) It is unlawful to litter or dump, or cause to be littered or dumped, waste matter in or upon a public or private highway or road, including any portion of the right-of-way thereof, or in or upon private property into or upon which the public is admitted by easement or license, or upon private property without the consent of the owner, or in or upon a public park or other public property other than property designated or set aside for that purpose by the governing board or body having charge of that property.
- (b) It is unlawful to litter, place, deposit, or dump, or cause to be littered, placed, deposited, or dumped, rocks, concrete, asphalt, or dirt in or upon a private highway or road, including any portion of the right-of-way of the private highway or road, or private property, without the consent of the owner or a contractor under contract with the owner for the materials, or in or upon a public park or other public property, without the consent of the state or local agency having jurisdiction over the highway, road, or property.
- (c) Each day that waste placed, littered, deposited, or dumped in violation of subdivision (a) or (b) remains is a separate violation.
- (d) This section does not restrict a private owner in the use of his or her own private property, unless the placing, depositing, or dumping of the waste matter on the property creates a public health and safety hazard, a public nuisance, or a fire hazard, as determined by a local health department, local fire department or district providing fire protection services, or the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in which case this section applies.

9.48.020 Penalties

- (a) Penalties for minor violations:
 - 1. First violation. A first violation within a 24-month period shall be an infraction with an administrative penalty of \$100. However, if the violator removes the illegally dumped or littered material within a reasonable time, and not to exceed 24 hours, then the penalty shall be waived except that the violation will be considered a “first violation” for purposes of the progressive penalties set forth herein.
 - 2. Second violation. A second violation within a 24-month period shall be a misdemeanor and subject to an administrative penalty of \$500.
 - 3. Third violation. A third violation within a 24-month period shall be a misdemeanor and subject to an administrative penalty of \$1000.

(b) Penalties for major violations:

1. The following are considered major violations: (a) where the illegal dumping involves a commercial quantity (waste generated in the course of a trade or business, or an amount that is at least one cubic yard), harmful waste, a mattress, tires, furniture, appliances, _____, or (b) a minor violation that exceeds the third within a 24-month period.
2. First violation. For those violations in category (a), a first violation within a 24-month period shall be a misdemeanor with an administrative penalty of \$1000. However, if the violator removes the illegally dumped material within a reasonable time, and not to exceed 24 hours, then the penalty shall be waived except that the violation will be considered a “first violation” for purposes of the progressive penalties set forth herein.
3. All other major violations. All other major violations shall be a misdemeanor and subject to an administrative penalty of \$3000.

(c) Procedure for administrative penalties

1. Administrative penalties are to be administered by the Code Enforcement Division or Sheriff’s Office. Citations are to be hand-delivered or sent by certified mail to the violator’s last-known address.
2. The alleged violator may appeal the citation by paying a \$50 fee to the County Clerk and by filing a statement referencing the citation and setting forth any legal or factual grounds for the appeal. Any hardship requests shall be set forth in the appeal. Appeals shall be heard by the Board of Supervisors. If the violator agrees, the Board of Supervisors may assign community service to cover all or part of the penalty.

(d) Abatement. If the County abates the violation, the County shall be entitled to collect from the violator all costs and fees associated with the abatement. The delivery of the bill and the appeal procedure shall be the same as set forth in subsection (c). The County may use any legal means to collect the costs and fees after the violator has had an opportunity to appeal the clean-up cost invoice, and the County shall be entitled to collect any additional costs and fees associated with the collection thereof.

(e) Remedies cumulative. The remedies provided for in this chapter are in addition to and do not supersede or limit any and all other remedies provided by law. The remedies provided in this chapter are cumulative and not exclusive.