

PENALTIES

Fines

To leave or throw litter in a public place is an offence which is liable to an on the spot fine of €150 or a maximum fine of €4000 in court. A person convicted of a litter offence may also be required by the court to pay South Dublin County Council's costs and expenses in investigating the prosecution.

Who enforces the Litter Law

Local Authorities are responsible for implementing the litter laws within the County boundary. This means they are responsible for the prevention and control of litter and they have the power to take enforcement action against individuals who break or ignore these laws. Gardai also have the power to issue on the spot fines for litter offences.

REDUCE WASTE

Recycling

Recycling "bring centres" are located all around South Dublin County including at most shopping centres. For a full list of locations log onto: www.sdcc.ie or www.dublinwaste.ie



Civic Amenity Facility

Householders who wish to dispose of excess household rubbish may do so at the Council's Civic Amenity, Ballymount Avenue, Dublin 24. There is a charge for use of the facility. Recyclables and white goods are accepted free of charge, see www.sdcc.ie for full list of materials accepted or phone 01 4621251.

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 09:30 - 17:00
Sat 09:00 - 17:30
Sun 09:30 - 17:00
Bank Holidays 09:30 - 17:00

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT US:

Environmental Services, South Dublin County Council, County Hall,
Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Phone 01 4149000 or Email: info@sdblincoco.ie
www.sdcc.ie
www.dublinwaste.ie



Printed on recycled Paper

Litter & The Law

Know your responsibilities
Take action against litter





Litter

The Litter Pollution Act, 1997 introduces tougher litter laws to combat the problems of litter pollution. This leaflet is a practical guide to these litter laws.

Definition of Litter

The definition of litter is quite wide and extends beyond casual pieces of paper or cigarette ends to anything large or small which is, or is likely to become unsightly. For further information you should contact South Dublin County Council Environmental Services, phone 01 4149000 or www.sdcc.ie. A copy of the Litter Pollution Act may be purchased from Government Publications Postal Trade Section, 51 St. Stephens Green, Dublin 2. Phone 01 6476834 or www.oireachtas.ie

Responsibilities

Public Places

If you are the owner or the person responsible for a place to which the public has access you are obliged to keep the place litter free, regardless of how the litter got there. This applies to any public place which may include the precincts of a shopping centre, a school campus, a public park, a train or bus station, a business or a public road.

Mobile Food Outlets

Operators of mobile food outlets selling fast food or beverages, or other outlets such as those selling farm produce are obliged to provide suitable litter-bins in the vicinity of their outlets. Also, they must clean-up any litter arising from the operation of their outlets within a radius of **100 metres from their outlet.**

Presenting Your Refuse For Collection

Taking a few small precautions in the way you present your refuse for collection will help enormously in preventing the creation of litter. Wheel-bins should be placed at the side of the footpath, handles facing out to the road. Close the lid on the bin securely. Refuse bins for collection should be placed out on the morning and not on the day or night before. The longer a bin is left out for collection the more likely it is to attract the unwanted attention of dogs, cats and birds. It is an offence to dispose of your household refuse in street litter bins.

Private Property

The owner or occupier of property which can be seen from a public place is obliged to keep it free of litter.

Dog Fouling

Dog owners must now remove their pets' waste from public places and dispose of it in a proper manner. This obligation applies to the following places:

- Public roads and footpaths
- Areas around shopping centres
- School/sports grounds
- Parks
- Green Open Spaces
- The immediate area surrounding another persons house



Enforcement

Litter Black Spots

Where litter has accumulated on property for whatever reason and the litter is visible from a public place, the local authority can issue a notice to the owner or occupier requiring the prompt removal of the litter. A notice sets down precautionary measures to be put in place to prevent a reoccurrence. If a property owner or occupier fails or refuses to do everything that has been requested, the Council has the power to do whatever is necessary itself and require the owner or occupier to pay all of the costs involved.

Illegal Dumping

The litter laws have increased the powers of local authorities to combat illegal dumping of refuse and rubbish. Where the Council finds material that is illegally dumped and establishes the identity of the owner of the material, that person will have a case to answer without necessarily having to be caught in the act.

Extra powers are available to local authorities to require a householder or business operator to indicate how and where they are disposing of their waste. This is particularly relevant if the householder or business owner is not availing of a refuse collection service or bringing their waste to an authorised disposal facility. If you see someone dumping illegally, report the matter to the Environmental Services Department who will investigate and take any necessary enforcement action.

Major Events

The promoters or organisers of major events are required to ensure that they have litter control measures in place at the venue and in the surrounding vicinity before, during and after the event. This applies to football matches and other social and sporting events at which large crowds attend. It is possible that this task can be undertaken by the Council but the promoter /organiser must bear the costs involved.

Posters and signs

The law forbids the putting up of posters/signs on poles or on other structures in public places unless you have the written permission of the owner of the pole or structure in advance of putting up the posters/signs. It is also prohibited to place advertising leaflets on car, vans etc. without the prior consent of the owner of the vehicle.