Help us put a stop to this!

Tackling fly tipping
A guide for landowners
With the massive budget cuts local authorities are facing, we need to tackle the fly tipping issue and drive down the 1,000 incidents that happen each month in our county.

The types of land most commonly affected by fly tipping include land near to household waste recycling centres, roadsides and private land. This leaflet has been produced for you, as a landowner, to inform you of your legal responsibilities around fly tipping and to provide advice and information on the support available to you, how to deal with fly tipping incidents and help to prevent it happening.

**What are my responsibilities?**

Your local council is responsible for dealing with most types of fly tipping incidents on public land. The Environment Agency will deal with larger incidents, those involving organised crime, and certain hazardous wastes which will damage the environment.

Local councils do not remove fly tipped waste on private land. As a private landowner, you are responsible for clearing and disposing of fly tipping found on your land and for reporting the incident to your local council.

**Is there support available?**

Local councils across Northamptonshire can provide support to landowners on:

- How you can dispose of fly tipped waste legally.
- Investigating and gathering evidence to help prosecute fly tipping offenders.
- Helping prevent recurring fly tipping incidents on your land.

The support available is assessed on a case by case basis and is limited to the resources available to the council. Please contact your local council for more details.
What to do if you are a victim of fly tipping

Before you take any action, please make sure it is safe to do so – be extremely careful as fly tipped waste can be hazardous.

• If you suspect the waste may include hazardous substances contact the Environment Agency for advice on how to deal with it (contact details in this leaflet).
• Exercise caution if you are opening bags or drums and be aware that piles of soil may be contaminated or hide dangerous materials.
• Secure the fly tipping – make sure the waste is not causing a risk to anyone, you may want to consider the need for a temporary barrier to confine the waste.
• Record details – try and record as many details as possible as this will help your local council take necessary action and help prevent recurring incidents. Take photos of the waste as found, look for any information that may indicate who may responsible e.g. paperwork and talk to your neighbours to find out if they saw anything suspicious.
• Report the incident – regardless of whether fly tipping is found on public land or your land, you should report it to your local council to help identify trends and hotspots.
• Do not move the waste onto other land as you will also be committing an offence.
Disposing of fly tipping
As a landowner you have a duty of care to ensure fly tipped waste is disposed of correctly.

The waste must be taken to a trade waste facility. Northamptonshire County Council operates four of these, see page six for details. There are also private waste disposal sites in the county – search online for these.

You can take the waste yourself or have it collected by a licensed waste disposal company. In some cases your local council may be able to assist you, but there will be a charge.

It is advised that when arranging for the waste to be removed by a waste disposal company, you check the Environment Agency website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk or ask to see their waste carrier licence to ensure they are licensed to take the waste away. Failure to check they are licensed could result in you being prosecuted and fined up to £5000.

“Fly tipping is a major problem across the UK. It costs local taxpayers like you over £650,00 dangerous, unsightly, harmful to the env
Preventing fly tipping
How to prevent fly tipping on your land:

- Limit access by installing gates or barriers, but make sure you are not blocking a public right of way.
- Close / secure gates when they are not in use.
- Improve visibility so fly tippers are not hidden from view. This could be done through clearing of areas or small scale landscaping to reduce hidden corners.
- Install or improve lighting.
- Keep your land tidy – untidy areas attract fly tippers.
- If any waste is fly tipped on your land, remove it quickly as others will think they’ve found a good place to abandon their waste.
- Supervise any large deliveries on your land, especially for construction or agriculture. Unscrupulous operators may deliver something you weren’t expecting.
- Work with your neighbours to monitor fly tipping in your area.

Fly tipping and the law

Environmental Protection Act 1990
The Environmental Protection Act 1990 is the main piece of legislation in England and Wales which seeks to protect the environment. It includes two key sections relating to the prevention of fly tipping (Sections 33 and 34).

The Act places a duty of care on anyone who produces or deals with waste in any way stating that reasonable measures should be taken by all to ensure waste is being dealt with by someone who is legally authorised to do so.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 gives regulators more powers to tackle fly tipping and courts the ability to impose tougher penalties. Fly tippers can now be fined up to £50,000 and / or be given 12 months in prison in magistrates’ courts.

In higher courts, fly tippers can face unlimited fines, incur community punishment orders, or be given prison sentences of up to five years.

If you would like to find out more about legislation around fly tipping please refer to the Defra website: www.defra.gov.uk
Business waste disposal facilities
There are four council run business waste disposal centres:

**Northampton – Sixfields**
Walter Tull Way
Weedon Road
Via Sixfields Leisure Roundabout
Northampton, NN5 5QL

**Northampton – Ecton Lane**
Lower Ecton Lane
Great Billing
Northampton, NN3 5HQ

**Kettering**
Garrard Way
Telford Way Industrial Estate
Kettering
Northants, NN16 8TD

**Rushden**
Northampton Road
East of Sanders Lodge on the old A45 road
Rushden
Northants, NN10 6AL

Check online at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentres](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentres) for opening times and information. There are also private waste disposal sites in the county. Search online for these.

Further information
If you would like more information contact:

**The Environment Agency – they will be able to:**
- Find a company licensed to collect your rubbish and unwanted items
- Check if a company is licensed to carry your rubbish and unwanted items
- Provide help and advice if you are worried about getting rid of your rubbish legally

**08708 506 506**
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

**Your local council – they will be able to:**
- Take reports of fly tipping incidents, to help identify trends and local hot spots
- Assist in investigation and prosecution of offenders
- Direct you to the nearest place to dispose of your rubbish
- Give help and advice about reducing, reusing and recycling

Find contact details for your local council inside this leaflet or visit their website.

**Other useful websites:**
- Keep Britain Tidy: [www.keepbritaintidy.org](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org)
- DEFRA: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)
- National Farmers’ Union: [www.nfuonline.com](http://www.nfuonline.com)
Contacts details for your local council:

**Borough Council of Wellingborough:**
01933 229777
www.wellingborough.gov.uk

**Corby Borough Council:**
01536 464000
www.corby.gov.uk

**Daventry District Council:**
01327 871100
www.daventrydc.gov.uk

**Kettering Borough Council:**
01536 410333
www.kettering.gov.uk

**Northampton Borough Council:**
01604 837837
www.northampton.gov.uk

**South Northamptonshire Council:**
01327 322322
www.southnorthants.gov.uk

**Northamptonshire County Council:**
01604 236236
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk
(for details of Household Waste Recycling Centres)
This information can be made available in other languages and formats upon request. Please contact: 01604 236236.