



Littering Frequently Asked Questions

What is being done about littering and dumping?

The [Integrated Waste Management By-law](#) sets fines between R500 and R10 000. It also calls for criminal sentences of 6 months to 2 years for certain offenders. In serious cases both fines and prison sentences can be handed down.

The new Bylaw also broadens the responsibility of ensuring that contractors dispose of waste lawfully.

The City seeks a collaborative approach to solving this problem. Cleaning up litter and illegal dumping are the two biggest waste removal costs, all of which are paid for by the ratepayers.

What constitutes littering; even a matchstick or an apple core?

Litter is defined as any waste produced in a public area that is not disposed in public litter containers.

It is illegal to drop, throw, deposit, spill, dump, store, discard, or otherwise dispose of any litter or waste into or onto any public place or on any place to which the public has access. This includes municipal drains, vacant property, open land, streets, roads, wetlands and the coastline.

Nor may they allow a person under their control to do so. This includes children and employees. If no litter bin is nearby, keep your waste with you until one becomes available, or take it home and put it in your bin.

Who must provide and service litter containers?

The City provides bins and services in public areas.

Who catches the litterbugs?

They are caught by law-enforcement officers. Residents are encouraged to report littering and dumping. The offenders cost everyone a lot of money every year.

What about litter on private land?

Owners, controllers and rightful occupants of private property may not dump or allow dumping on their land or premises. They must also take reasonable steps to prevent the use of the land or premises for that purpose.

What are the fines for littering?

Admission of guilt fines: For littering and dumping and for spillage of uncovered or unsecured loads.

Littering FAQs

Province of Western Cape: Provincial Gazette 6651
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BY-LAW, 2009

ADMISSION OF GUILT FINES

SECTION	OFFENCE	FINE
Section 15(1)	Littering or dumping under 1m ³	R500
	Littering or dumping over 1m ³ to 3m ³	R1000
	littering or dumping over 3m ³ to 5m ³	R1500
	Littering or dumping over 5m ³ to 7m ³	R2000
	litter or dumping over 7m ³ to 8m ³	R2 500
Section 12(b)	Conveying of an uncovered load which results in spillage of load— Spillage under 1m ³	R500
	Spillage over 1m ³ to 3m ³	R1000
	Spillage over 3m ³ to 5m ³	R1500
	Spillage over 5m ³ to 7m ³	R2000
	Spillage over 7m ³ to 8m ³	R2500
	Conveying of an unsecured load which results in spillage of load— Spillage under 1m ³	R500
	Spillage over 1m ³ to 3m ³	R1000
	Spillage over 3m ³ to 5m ³	R1500
	Spillage over 5m ³ to 7m ³	R2000
	Spillage over 7m ³ to 8m ³	R2500

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What about more serious offences?

Any conviction for any offence in terms of the Integrated Waste Management By-law could result in a fine of up to R10 000 or imprisonment for 6 -24 months (2 years) or both.