

Penalties under the Texas Litter Abatement Act: Health and Safety Code 365

- **CLASS C MISDEMEANOR:**

Fine up to \$500

5 pounds or less or a volume of 5 gallons or less

- **CLASS B MISDEMEANOR:**

Fine up to \$2,000 and/or up to 180 days in jail

More than 5 pounds but less than 500 pounds or a volume of more than 5 gallons but less than 100 cubic feet

- **CLASS A MISDEMEANOR:**

Fine up to \$4,000 and/or up to 1 year in jail

500 pounds or more but less than 1,000 pounds or has a volume of 100 cubic feet or more but less than 200 cubic feet; or

– dumping for a commercial purpose and weighing more than 5 pounds but less than 200 pounds or has a volume more than 5 gallons but less than 200 cubic feet.

- **STATE JAIL FELONY:**

Fine up to \$10,000 and/or up to 2 years in State jail

1,000 pounds or more, has a volume of 200 cubic feet or more; or

– dumping for a commercial purpose and weighing 200 pounds or more, has a volume of 200 cubic feet or more; or

– dumping a closed barrel or drum.

What You Can Do To Help

Law enforcement officials need your help in fighting environmental crime. Citizens can take an active role in stopping illegal dumping by following the suggestions listed below:

- Always dispose of your own litter properly;
- Spread the word to friends and neighbors that illegal dumping is a crime;
- Do not transport unsecured debris in the back of a vehicle - always use a tarp or other cover;
- Organize volunteer cleanups of illegal dumpsites - people are less likely to litter in clean areas;
- Do not pay roofing or other contractors until they present you with a landfill receipt showing that your waste was properly disposed;
- Report illegal dumping in unincorporated areas to:
Brazos County Sheriff's Department 979-361-4900.

Remember to include the following information in your report:

- Specific street or road location within the county
- License plate number and description of the vehicle
- Personal description of the violator
- Type of waste dumped
- Date and time of the violation
- Your name and telephone number
(helpful to investigate and prosecute and you can remain anonymous)

