

# Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force

Illegal dumping is a threat to your health, your home, and your environment. Learn how you can take action to prevent illegal dumping and clean up your community.

## Keep it Clean: You Can Make a Difference

### Why is illegal dumping a problem?

Your tax dollars and other fees often subsidize the cost of cleaning up dump sites. Cleaning up illegal dump sites is an expensive and time-consuming process. Each year, the Ohio EPA hires contractors to remove about 100,000 illegally dumped tires.

Illegal dumping can create an eyesore in your neighborhood, as well as an environmental and health hazard. Litter pollutes the soil, the water and the air. Tires are breeding grounds for disease-carrying vermin, such as mosquitoes and rats.

Dump sites are often easily accessible to children, and they may contain hazardous chemicals, broken glass, rusty nails, and scrap tires.

### What if someone dumps trash on my property?

Unfortunately, if someone dumps trash or tires on your property, the property owner is responsible for cleaning up the problem (Montgomery County Sanitary Regulations, s.60.24; Ohio Revised Code, s.3745-27-05). If someone dumps on your property, report the crime immediately, and then remove the waste as soon as possible to prevent further dumping.

### How do I safely store tires on my property?

Store tires in a garage or under a tarp to prevent rain water collection, or eliminate standing water when tires cannot be disposed of immediately. Drill holes in tires used for swings, barriers, or exercise, so they won't hold water. Remember, you must ensure that any tires on your property are safely and responsibly stored.

### Where can I dispose of tires, chemicals, or other trash?

Montgomery County residents can visit the Solid Waste Transfer Station to dispose of household hazardous waste, construction debris, scrap tires, electronics, appliances, and recyclables. The Montgomery County Solid Waste District offers many waste disposal and recycling programs at little or no cost to residents.

Call (937) 225-4999 or visit [www.mcswd.org](http://www.mcswd.org) for more information about special waste collection and disposal programs in Montgomery County.

### Are scrap tires recycled?

Scrap tires can be recycled into everyday products such as playground mulch, rubber hoses, or shoe soles. You can support recycling efforts by purchasing recycled tire products.

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# COST

 of illegal dumping

Illegal dumping can impact our community, our environment, and our personal health. Remember, you can help solve the problem of illegal dumping in your home and community.

**Your money, your problem.** Every year, Ohio municipalities spend millions of dollars to protect the environment and public health by cleaning up illegal dump sites. Your tax dollars and other fees help to fund these cleanup operations.

**Life-threatening diseases.** Rodents, insects, and other vermin live and breed in open dump sites and scrap tires. These pests are often carriers of diseases, such as West Nile virus and canine heartworms.

**Dumping attracts other dumping.** Illegal dump sites and other litter encourage more people to dump trash in the same place. Prolific or recurring open dumping can affect the quality of life in your neighborhood, and potentially lower property values.

**Severe fire hazards.** Tire fires are very difficult to extinguish, so these fires are often left to burn themselves out. This releases toxins into the air you breathe, as well as the soil and groundwater.

**Safety hazards to children.** Children look at a pile of rubber tires as an inviting place to play, and they may be injured by nails, glass or chemicals found at illegal dump sites.



## About the Task Force

The Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force seeks to improve and protect public health and the environment through responsible enforcement and comprehensive outreach and education. The Task Force brings together regional entities to solve our challenging environmental problems and to educate the public.

Our goal is to work with residents, businesses, and the tire industry to promote proper tire storage and disposal, catch illegal dumpers, and ensure successful prosecution of illegal dumping cases.

The task force is a partnership between local municipalities, enforcement agencies, and regulatory organizations, including the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery County Environmental Services, the City of Dayton, the City of Trotwood, Harrison Township, Jefferson Township, Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County, the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.



## Environmental Crime Prevention

Protecting Public Health through enforcement and education



## Report Illegal Dumping

We need the help of concerned citizens to reduce illegal dumping and improve the quality of our communities. If you see someone dumping trash, construction debris, chemicals, or tires, make sure you report the crime.

You can report illegal dumping or tire hauling activity using the **Report-A-Dumper Hotline at (937) 225-HELP (4357)** or by visiting [www.mcoho.org/envirocrimes](http://www.mcoho.org/envirocrimes) and filling out an online report.

When reporting a crime, please be as honest and accurate as possible. Make sure to write down information such as:

- License plate number, make and model of the vehicle
- Description of individuals
- Location, date and time you witnessed the event

Thank you for doing your part to clean up our community and stop illegal dumping.



Montgomery County  
Environmental Crimes Task Force

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(937) 225-HELP (4357)

[www.mcoho.org/envirocrimes](http://www.mcoho.org/envirocrimes)

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