

Advice for Landowners

Land managers, occupiers or owners of private property are responsible for clearing and disposing of any fly-tipping found on private land. Whilst the local councils will not clear rubbish dumped on private land free of charge, they may investigate such incidents where appropriate.

The Environment Agency will deal with larger incident such as those involving organised crime, and certain hazardous wastes, which have a greater potential to damage the environment.

Please note that regardless of whether fly-tipping is found on public or private land you should always report it to the [relevant authority](#).



1. Protect your land from the illegal dumping of rubbish by:

- a) Installing gates or barriers, ideally in keeping with the natural environment. Make sure that when erecting any form of barrier you are not permanently blocking a public right of way.
- b) Making sure gates are closed when not in use.
- c) Improving visibility so that fly-tippers are not hidden from view. Fly-tippers prefer to commit their crimes out of sight.
- d) Installing or improving lighting.
- e) Considering placement of appropriate deterrent signage or dummy cameras
- f) Swiftly clearing any waste that is dumped to remove any encouragement for others to add to it.

2. What to do with fly-tipping on your land

Important points to remember:

- 1) Before you take action please make sure it is safe to do so.
- 2) Be extremely careful. Some fly-tipped waste can be hazardous.
- 3) If you suspect that the waste may include any hazardous waste contact the [Environment Agency](#) for advice on how to deal with it.
- 4) Do not open bags or drums and be aware that piles of soil may be contaminated or hide dangerous material.
- 5) Remember that fly-tippers are doing something illegal – they are unlikely to welcome people observing them.
- 6) Recording details will help authorities in Suffolk take necessary action against fly-tippers and prevent them re-offending. Successful prosecution can mean that the costs incurred for the removal of the waste can also be recovered.
- 7) Secure the fly-tipping therefore limiting the harm it could potentially cause to people or the environment. You may want to consider the need for a temporary barrier to secure the waste.
- 8) Report the incident. Regardless of whether fly-tipping is found on public or private land, you should report it to the [relevant authority](#).

3. Dispose of fly-tipping correctly

- a) Land managers, occupiers or owners of private property are responsible for clearing and disposing of fly-tipping on private land and, as a duty of care, must ensure that the waste is disposed of correctly.
- b) Fly-tipped waste can be disposed of at the [Household Waste Recycling Centres](#), but commercial charges will apply.
- c) When arranging for the waste to be removed, check their [public register of waste carriers](#) call **03708 506 506** to check that they are legally registered to do so. Failure to ensure that operators are licensed to carry waste could result in prosecution and a fine of £5,000 for the land manager, occupier or owner.
- d) Sites and operators can be found in the phone directory or you can visit www.wastedirectory.org.uk. Landowners in Suffolk can seek further advice on how to dispose of fly-tipping safely and legally from the Environment Agency, Suffolk County Council or your local Council.
- e) If you think the waste may contain hazardous materials then you should contact the [Environment Agency](#) for advice.

4. Abandoned vehicles

Report any abandoned vehicles on your land to your local council. Give them details of where the vehicle is, its colour, registration number, make, condition, how long it has been there and tax details. Vehicles will be assessed by a council officer and, if considered abandoned, will be removed as soon as is reasonably practical. Abandoned vehicles can be removed from private land if they can be picked up without difficulty and if the landowner does not object.



5. Relevant authorities

Environment Agency	0800 807060
Babergh District Council	01473 826 622
Forest Heath District Council	01638 719 284
Ipswich Borough Council	01473 433 115
Mid Suffolk District Council	08456 606 6067
St Edmundsbury Borough Council	01284 757 320
Suffolk Coastal District Council	01394 444 000
Waveney District Council	01502 562 111
Suffolk County Council	03456 066 067

More detailed advice can be found in the guide [“Tackling Fly Tipping – a Guide for Landowners and Land Managers”](#), produced by the National Fly-Tipping Prevention Group

