



Discourage illegal dumping

Illegal dumping is the disposal of waste on public or private land or into water without a licence, permit or approval from council, the EPA or other relevant authorities.

Most construction waste is managed responsibly. However, illegal dumping of building and demolition materials costs Victoria more than \$30 million a year in clean-up costs (EPA, 2017). It also negatively affects the environment and the liveability of an area, and often attracts more dumped rubbish. Some property developers will fine the homeowner for rubbish their builder leaves behind.

What can builders do?

Builders can:

- Discourage dumping by keeping a clean site with waste sorted and contained. Casual dumpers often see loose waste as an invitation to discard their waste as well.
- Install signage and surveillance to discourage dumpers.
- Before starting construction, plan how they will correctly and legally remove, recycle or dispose of all building rubbish.

What can homeowners do?

If you are not building on your land immediately, consider putting up fencing to deter people from accessing your property. Ask your builder to install a temporary security camera throughout construction. See if they will leave it in place between handover and your move-in date to help deter building materials from being dumped or whitegoods stolen from inside. When sourcing a builder, ask what policies and procedures they have in place about removing and disposing of building rubbish.



© GlobalMoments | iStock



Report illegal dumping to the EPA at www.epa.vic.gov.au or by calling 1300 372 842. You can also report it to your local council.

Reporting dumped rubbish

Report any dumped rubbish immediately to your property developer, to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and/or your local council. Don't hesitate to report multiple times to multiple agencies. The quicker that rubbish is removed the better. If you see someone dumping rubbish, call Triple Zero (000) straight away while they're doing it. If it's happening now, Victoria Police want to know and act. If it is happening regularly and you report it, they may be able to conduct more patrols of your area.



© Photo: JDS | Shutterstock



© Photovs | Dreamstime

