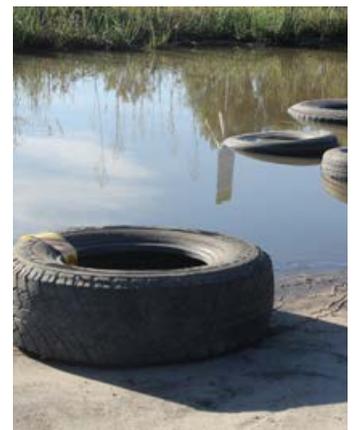


NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21



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Executive summary

Setting our goals

Combating illegal dumping is a key priority for the NSW Government and local communities. The government is committed to protecting local environments from pollution by reducing all types of illegal dumping incidents across the state by 30% by 2020.

Using the *NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2014–16*, we have been working hard to reduce illegal dumping by:

- rolling out targeted programs
- building strong relationships
- taking strategic regulatory action
- funding councils, public land managers, community groups, Aboriginal groups and charities to clean up and prevent illegal dumping.

The *NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21* builds on this work, setting out six approaches to meet our goals. Its illegal dumping action table summarises the key actions and programs we share with our stakeholders.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is the lead agency for implementing the NSW Government's *Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21*. Its work is funded through the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative, which has so far provided \$7.1 million for 133 projects and \$8.5 million to support the Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Squads and Programs. *Waste Less, Recycle More 2017–21* provides an additional \$4 million to fund illegal dumping clean-up, prevention and engagement programs, and \$9 million to support RID Squads and Programs. A further \$52 million will support strategic compliance programs.

Understanding illegal dumping

Illegal dumping is the disposal of any waste that is larger than litter to land or water without correct approvals (an environment protection licence or planning approval). It includes illegal landfilling, where waste, often from construction or demolition, is used as 'fill' without approval. It can damage the environment and our health, and create unsightly community spaces and high clean-up costs.

To combat illegal dumping, we have increased public awareness through communication, education, media events, branding and signs. Public reporting has increased by 39% from 2015-16 to 2016-17 in project areas. We have established two more RID Squads and launched RIDonline, a state-wide database and reporting tool. Since its launch, 977 registered users that manage public land have reported over 40,000 incidents.

Through our grant programs, so far, 4640 tonnes of dumped waste have been cleaned up, and infrastructure and prevention measures have been implemented including over 554 signs, 217 surveillance cameras, 317 gates, earth mounds and bollards and over 4.1 km of

fencing. As a result of these measures, dumping in target hotspots has been reduced by up to 100%.

As a community, we strongly believe that illegal dumping is unacceptable. However, people illegally dump waste for a range of reasons – there is no typical dumper. Our continuing social research on what motivates people to illegally dump and our state-wide intelligence and data sources will help us to develop successful programs and track changes in attitudes and behaviours.

Approach: building an evidence base

Accurate, comprehensive data will help us direct and prioritise action against illegal dumping and report on these findings. It will tell us how big the problem is, where the problems are and what is dumped. Our social research tells us what to target, how to develop our programs and what motivates illegal dumpers so we can change behaviour.

In 2015, we completed social research into illegal dumping and launched RIDonline. Along with waste monitoring systems like WasteLocate, RIDonline will help build a comprehensive picture of illegal dumping in the state. We will continue our data collection and social research to learn more and report our findings.

Approach: stakeholder engagement and capacity building

Our partnerships allow us to share knowledge, improve skills and learn from each other's successes. The EPA also supports our partners through funding and project support. We engage with industry to support good operators.

Illegal dumping is not confined to local council boundaries, so partnerships are essential. Five RID Squads/Programs now cover 31 local government areas to combat dumping across the state.

We have developed branding and signs that all our partners and stakeholders can use. This means the same message is used across New South Wales, raising the profile of illegal dumping.

Approach: education and awareness

Educating the community and the waste industry is the first step towards changing behaviour. It raises awareness of the problem and its consequences, and builds the social norm that illegal dumping is wrong.

The EPA helps councils, public land managers, local Aboriginal land councils and charitable recyclers to engage with the community about illegal dumping. Most of these stakeholders have already adopted consistent messaging and signs. We will also develop an illegal dumping toolkit for our partners, which will include research results and advice on effective program design.

We will also trial behavioural change programs to target illegal dumping at multi-unit dwellings (MUDs).

Approach: prevention, infrastructure and clean-up

Prevention and deterrence help to reduce illegal dumping. For example, installing infrastructure can reduce opportunities to dump in remote areas.

Adequate, well-located facilities for waste disposal and recycling also remove incentives that could lead to dumping, while keeping sites clean shows the community that waste does not belong there. The NSW Government is also working to provide easier and cheaper options for householders to dispose of problem wastes like asbestos.

We support our partners with grants for local clean-up and prevention programs and to target illegal dumping hotspots.

Approach: regulation and enforcement

It is important we all work together to enforce and improve compliance with illegal dumping laws.

Our research shows that fewer people will dump waste if they think they will get caught. This is why it is important that we all work together to enforce illegal dumping laws such as the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act).

Encouraging the community to report illegal dumping through RIDonline also sends a clear message that dumping gets noticed. These reports will help us investigate crime and target hotspots and problem waste.

We will continue to run focused enforcement campaigns and investigate and prosecute offenders. We will use our new regulatory tools and strong powers to catch dumpers.

Approach: evaluation and monitoring

To tackle illegal dumping, we need to know what works and why.

As our knowledge grows, we will continually review our actions and tactics. Our target is to reduce illegal dumping by 30% by 2020. Setting baseline evidence is key to tracking and evaluating progress towards meeting our target.

The RIDonline database is a publicly available reporting tool enabling us to gather statewide baseline data. We will increase the accuracy of our data by encouraging all public land managers to use it. We will continuously enhance the system. We are measuring our success from July 2017.

We will report on completed work, committed funding and progress under this strategy every two years.

Setting our goals

What are our vision and objectives?

The NSW Government wants to protect local environments and the community by reducing illegal dumping and its social, environmental, health and financial impacts. It has committed to reducing all types of illegal dumping by 30% by 2020. This new target recognises that illegal dumping is a problem across NSW.

The EPA will work to create anti-dumping behaviour for the future through education, regulation and relationships with our partners. We will also monitor our progress.

How will we achieve these?

To achieve our goals, we will continue to support our partners with grants and funding.

Funding is already committed under *Waste Less, Recycle More*, an initiative that is transforming waste and recycling in the state through new infrastructure and systems.

Waste Less, Recycle More 2017–21 provides an additional \$4 million to fund illegal dumping clean-up, prevention and engagement programs, and \$9 million to support RID Squads and Programs. An additional \$52 million will support strategic compliance programs.

The *NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21* is the blueprint for achieving our objectives and the framework for prioritising and allocating funding. It builds on our work under the 2014–16 Strategy and sets out the actions required to meet our goals.

What was our consultation process?

The EPA developed the strategy in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders.

The EPA's *Draft Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017-20* was on public exhibition from 18 May 2017 until 31 July 2017. During this time the EPA hosted 6 forums across the state. Thirty-six written submissions were received from stakeholders and have been considered in finalising the strategy.

The strategy is the culmination of strong participation and support from stakeholders.

What does this Illegal Dumping Strategy cover?

This strategy outlines six approaches based on our research and experience and that of our partners. Figure 1 shows these approaches and the actions we will take to achieve our goals.

This strategy covers all types of illegal dumping, addresses five types of priority waste, and offers scope for targeting our partners' local priorities.

The actions in this strategy address the illegal dumping of asbestos. The EPA is developing an Asbestos Waste Strategy that will focus on asbestos waste management and disposal in more detail.

The illegal dumping action table summarises the key actions and programs we share with our stakeholders. This table will be updated every two years.

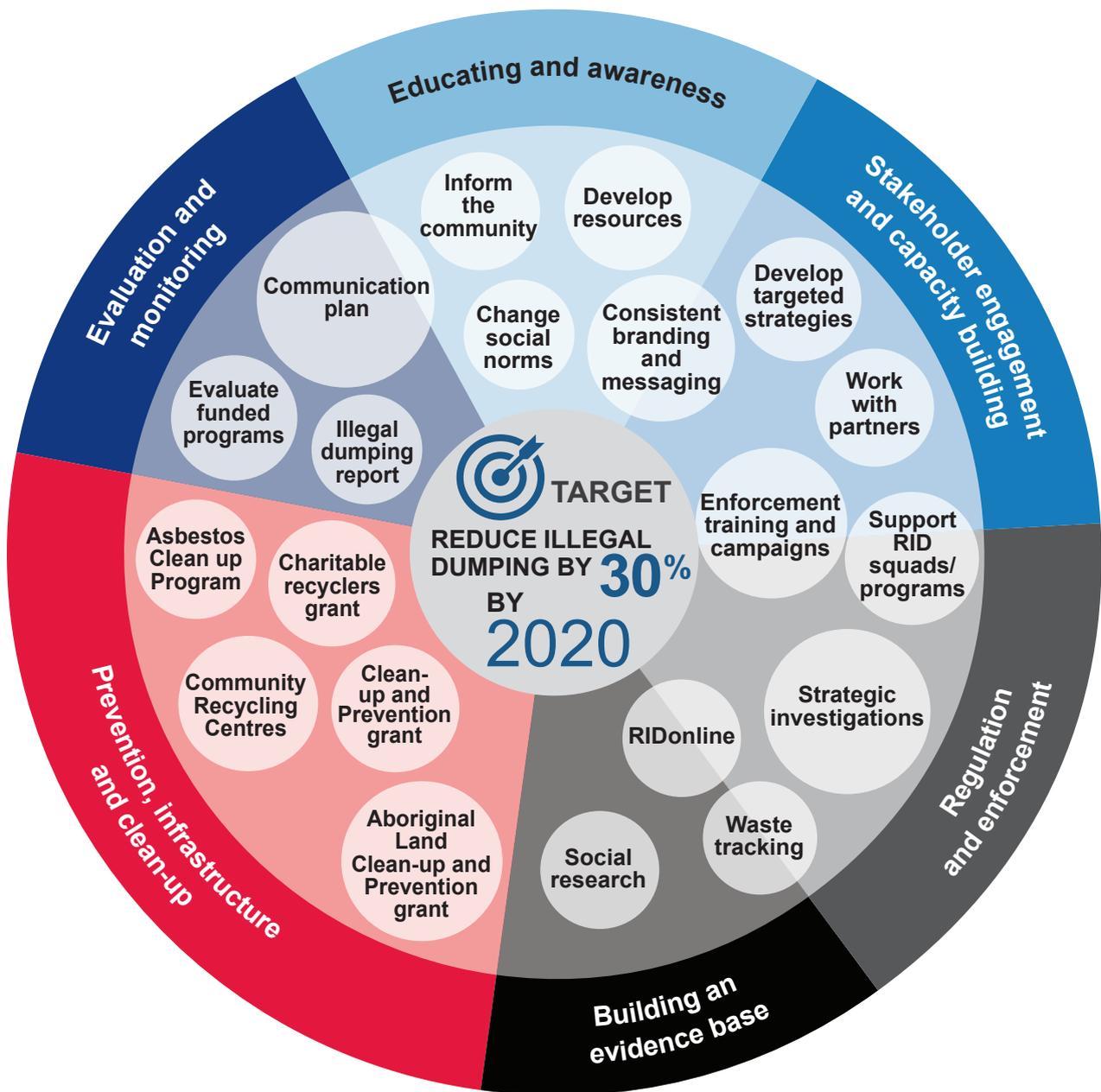


Figure 1: Illegal Dumping Strategy approaches and actions

Who are we working with?

The EPA's role is to fund and deliver programs in line with the *NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21* and state targets. It regulates large-scale illegal dumping and helps other agencies to enforce the law through capacity-building efforts like joint inspections, campaigns and training. All programs are based on partnerships with organisations such as:

<p>Local councils</p>	<p>Councils are the main authorities for managing waste in their areas.</p> <p>They often provide household waste and recycling services and infrastructure, and they clean up and regulate small illegal dumping sites.</p> <p>Councils can help prevent illegal dumping through community engagement and education. They have strategies that tackle local issues.</p> <p>We provide funding and work with councils to regulate and clean up waste.</p>
<p>Land managers including Local Aboriginal Land Councils, RMS, DPI, Forestry NSW and NPWS</p>	<p>Land managers are often responsible for large areas of land which are prone to illegal dumping.</p> <p>By working with partners, including the EPA, these managers can share the costs of clean-up and remediation, and develop strategies to prevent and investigate illegal dumping.</p>
<p>Charities</p>	<p>We are working with charities to reduce illegal dumping at donation bins and shops and improve the quality of donations. Strategies include trialling surveillance and raising awareness through education.</p>
<p>RID Squads and Programs</p>	<p>RID Squads and Programs tackle illegal dumping by householders and smaller dumps of construction waste in their region. There are five RID Squads/Programs in NSW.</p>
<p>Industry and businesses</p>	<p>We engage with the waste and construction industries and other businesses to make sure they are following lawful waste management practices and recycling where possible.</p>
<p>Planning authorities</p>	<p>Planning authorities set development consent conditions that include waste management and disposal at construction and demolition sites, and MUDS.</p>
<p>SafeWork</p>	<p>SafeWork regulates licensed asbestos removal. It ensures that legitimate operators handle and dispose of asbestos properly to prevent illegal dumping and health risks.</p>
<p>Community, including residents</p>	<p>The community is responsible for properly managing the waste it generates. We help residents do the right thing with their waste such as problem waste, asbestos, building waste and receiving fill.</p>

DID YOU KNOW?

Young people, men and full-time workers are among the most likely deliberate illegal dumpers. However, a third of the community and a quarter of businesses dumped waste illegally in the survey year.

Understanding illegal dumping

What is illegal dumping?

Illegal dumping is the disposal of any waste that is larger than litter to land or water without the correct approval (environment protection licence or planning approval). It ranges from dumping small bags of rubbish or unwanted household items in cities and suburbs to larger-scale dumping of materials like construction and demolition waste in more isolated areas. This waste can include dangerous materials like asbestos.

Illegal landfilling is a form of illegal dumping where waste is used as 'fill' without approval in roads, noise mounds, landscaping, reclamation and other works.

While illegal dumping is in some ways like littering, there are different motivations for the two behaviours. Illegal dumping generally occurs on a larger scale.

Why do people illegally dump?

We need to understand why businesses and people illegally dump waste so our interventions deal with the causes, not just the results.

While there is no typical dumper, most people understand that dumping is illegal. We have found that large-scale illegal landfilling is usually done by organised networks.

Our social research tells us that:

- people often dump household waste on kerbsides
- illegal dumping is a growing problem and its extent is hard to determine
- it is not confined to a demographic.

Depending on the type and quantity of waste, illegal dumpers are motivated by:

- convenience
- the opportunity to make money
- an unwillingness to pay
- an uncaring attitude.

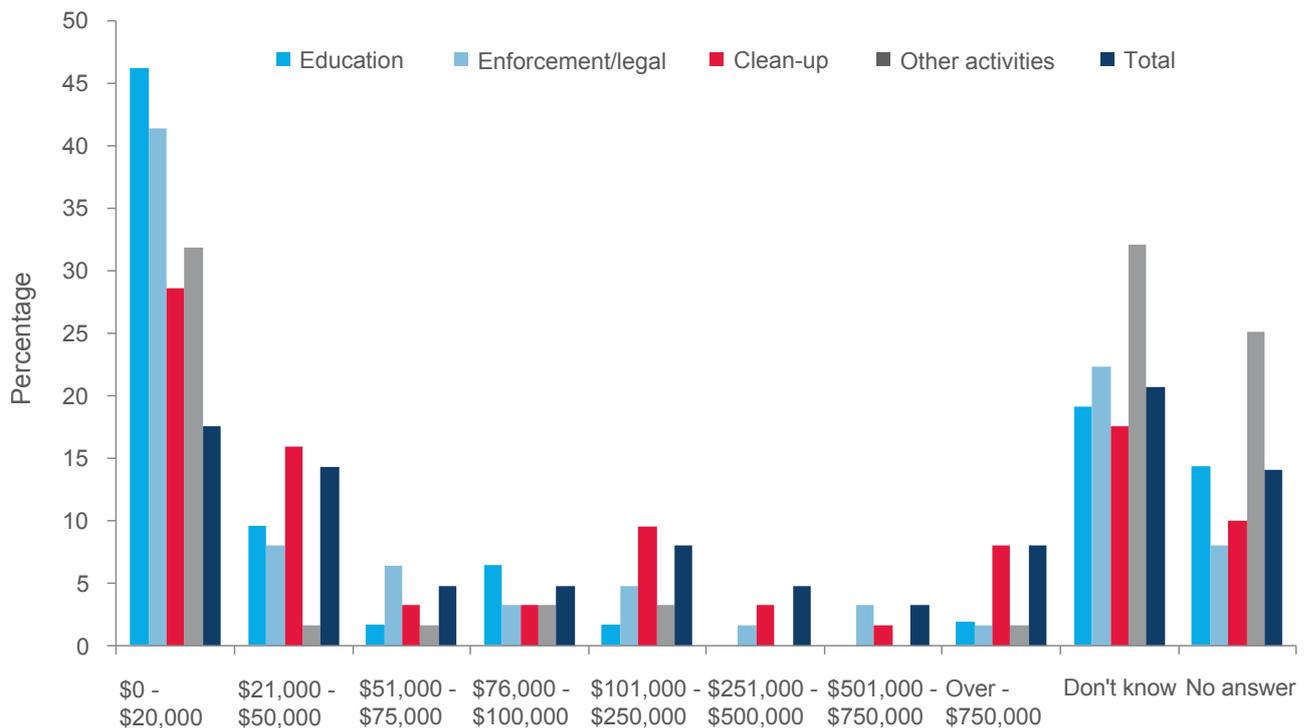
Our research also shows that people dump on the kerbside or around charitable recyclers, as they do not realise it is wrong.

You can read our full research on our [illegal dumping research web page](#).

Why is reducing illegal dumping important?

Illegal dumping has many impacts:

Environmental	Dumped waste can contaminate and degrade land, plant and animal habitats and pollute waterways. It can also pose a fire risk.
Human	Dumped waste can affect our health, especially if it contains chemicals or asbestos.
Visual	Dumping makes public places unsightly, which lowers community pride and attracts more dumping.
Resource	Easily recycled resources, like whitegoods, tyres and green waste, are lost when dumped.
Economic	Dumping waste can lower land values and undermines legitimate recycling facilities. Clean-up is expensive, as Figure 2 shows. Over 1 in 10 local government areas (LGAs) spend \$500,000 or more on illegal dumping education, enforcement, clean-up and other activities each year.



Base: n=63, all respondents

Q11 Please provide the approximate cost per year to your council from illegal dumping and illegal landfilling, by activity. If the cost per activity is unknown, please just provide the total cost.

Figure 2: Cost of illegal dumping

DID YOU KNOW?

64 % of local councils

face up to

100

ILLEGAL DUMPING INCIDENTS each year

What waste is illegally dumped?

Household waste made up 47% of all illegally dumped waste in the state, followed by green waste, construction and demolition waste, and tyres (see Figure 3).

Data from our reporting systems shows that construction and demolition waste and contaminated soil are the most common types of waste illegally landfilled.

Based on their roles and locations, our partners have identified high-risk or high-volume types of illegally dumped waste. Urban councils often identify household waste like mattresses and whitegoods in this regard, while Aboriginal communities and agencies that typically manage large, remote land parcels often nominate asbestos waste, building waste, green waste and used tyres.

Therefore, this strategy focuses on reducing the illegal dumping of:

- asbestos waste
- construction and demolition waste
- household waste
- used tyres
- green waste.

The EPA recognises not all these wastes will be a priority for all agencies.

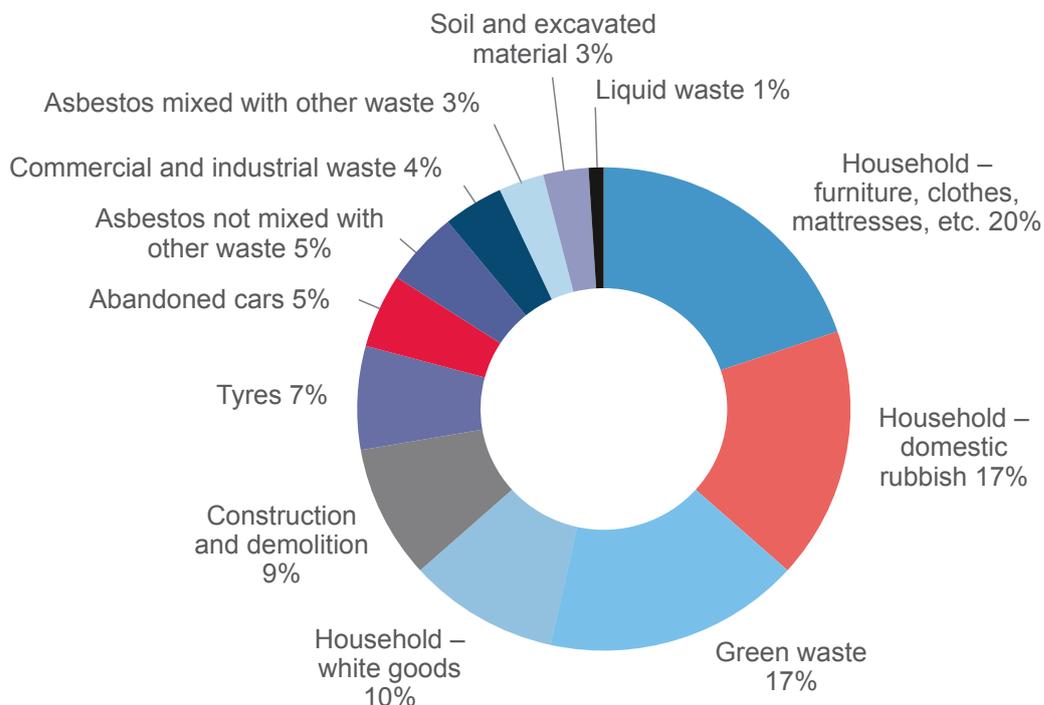


Figure 3: Types of illegally dumped waste, as reported by urban and rural local councils

Where is waste dumped?

Research participants identified bushland, vacant lots and the roadside as illegal dumping hotspots in their council areas. They reported that household waste was dumped around charity shops and bins, while construction and demolition waste and asbestos were the most common types of waste dumped in illegal landfills (see Figure 4).

Our RIDonline data shows that most dumping occurs on council-owned land, with far fewer incidents on Crown and private land. The exception is soil where 30% is dumped on private land.

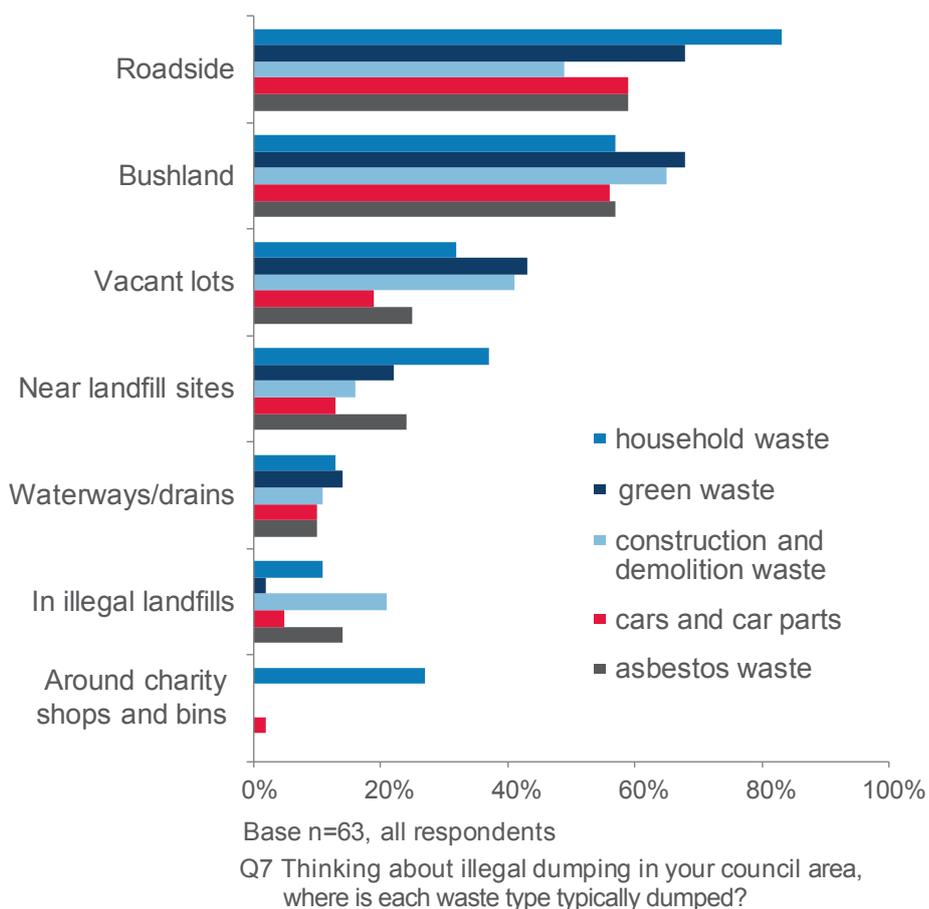


Figure 4: Location of illegally dumped waste

How do we measure illegal dumping?

Illegal dumping is difficult to measure as it often happens out of sight and in remote areas.

So, in 2015, we developed RIDonline, an illegal dumping database and reporting tool for New South Wales. Councils, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, local land services, the Department of Primary Industries, the Forestry Corporation, RID Squads, the EPA and other organisations have since reported over 40,000 incidents. Since February 2016, the public has also been able to report illegal dumping using RIDonline.

We also use data from Environment Line (our 24-hour phone reporting system) and partner reports from our grant programs, including information on preventative measures and clean-ups, to measure illegal dumping.

**Waste Less,
Recycle More**

has provided

\$7.1 MILLION

to fund

133

ILLEGAL DUMPING
PROJECTS

How is New South Wales doing?

Our state has been:

- raising awareness through events, social media, newspaper articles, advertising, educational material and stakeholder workshops
- increasing resources and infrastructure through grant programs
- increasing enforcement efforts through higher penalties and new waste provisions
- developing consistent branding and messaging for use across the state
- working with our partners to build capacity and strengthen relationships
- targeting large-scale illegal dumping by repeat offenders and organised networks.

Since 2013 the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative has provided \$7.1 million for 133 projects that prevent illegal dumping, clean up waste and develop strong partnerships.

Through our grant programs, so far we have installed over 317 gates, bollards and earth mounds; 554 signs, 217 surveillance cameras and over 4.1 km of fencing; and removed 4640 tonnes of illegally dumped waste.

As a result of these measures, dumping in target hotspots has reduced by up to 100%.

Since September 2015, 977 registered users have reported over 40,000 incidents using RIDonline. We have funded 28 councils and public land managers to establish illegal dumping baseline data and create local strategies.

\$8.5 million has supported our growing RID Squads and Programs. RID Squads and Programs partner with councils to tackle dumping across local government borders and enforce illegal dumping laws. In 2016–2017, RID Squads and Programs collectively investigated 7879 cases, issued 814 regulatory notices and imposed total fines and prosecutions equalling \$725,603.

We have run strategic campaigns to detect illegal dumping through aerial surveillance, and focus on priority issues and waste types.

**RESEARCH
SHOWS**

1/3

of the community illegally dumped waste in the survey year, mostly on the kerbside.



Approach: building an evidence base

Why do we need a strong evidence base?

Gathering information about illegal dumping is challenging. Dumping is often done in remote areas, and dumpers try to keep it out of sight, undetected and anonymous.

But accurate, comprehensive data will help us direct and prioritise action. It can tell us how big the problem is, where the problems are and what is dumped.

How do we gather data?

RIDonline is our illegal dumping database and reporting tool for New South Wales. Over 40,000 incidents have been reported through RIDonline since its release in 2015.

We have also developed systems to monitor waste movement. WasteLocate monitors two problem waste types: asbestos and tyres. We also have the power to install GPS tracking devices in vehicles transporting waste.

Our social research further informs our targets and program development, helping us understand what motivates illegal dumpers so we can change behaviour. The results of our 2015 research are the baseline against which we will measure changes in attitudes, behaviours and experiences.

How will we continue this work?

We will continue gathering data and intelligence with our monitoring and reporting tools such as GPS tracking and WasteLocate, and with this data, our knowledge will grow.

To build our evidence base we will:

- explore expanding WasteLocate to other waste types
- develop a communication strategy to increase use of RIDonline
- continuously enhance RIDonline and provide training and support to ensure our data is robust and up-to-date, to help us build the picture of illegal dumping across the state
- continue to gather data on the costs of illegal dumping
- further research the construction and demolition industry to understand knowledge, attitudes and behaviours around waste management, transport and disposal. We will use this to target the illegal dumping of waste from construction sites
- research the behavioural drivers of householders when doing renovations involving asbestos, and receiving fill, to inform an Asbestos Waste Strategy and education program for householders.

An understanding of behaviour and motivation, when combined with comprehensive data from our systems, will allow us to take strong action against illegal dumping.

DID YOU KNOW?

RID Squads and Programs

now cover

33

local government areas

Approach: stakeholder engagement and capacity building

Why are engagement and capacity building initiatives important?

All our programs are based on partnerships. Through these partnerships we can improve skills, learn from each other's successes, and share vital intelligence to identify illegal dumpers.

How are we supporting our partners?

We help our partners manage illegal dumping through funding, project support and sharing skills and knowledge.

In July 2015, we held the first NSW litter and illegal dumping forum, where councils and other public land managers shared their experiences. We are working with charitable recyclers to address illegal dumping around charity stores and bins. We are helping clean up waste on Aboriginal land through Waste Aid.

The NSW Government has committed \$9 million through *Waste Less, Recycle More* 2017–21 to help fund RID Squads and Programs. These specialist teams work closely with other regulatory agencies and stakeholders, pooling resources to combat illegal dumping and landfilling. The Southern Councils and NSW/ACT cross-borders RID Programs and RID Squads in Western Sydney, Sydney and Hunter/ Central Coast cover 31 local government areas.

How will we continue this work?

We will continue engaging with and supporting stakeholders by:

- working with industry to improve waste management from construction, demolition and infrastructure sites
- partnering with planning authorities and services to achieve better outcomes and ensure approvals lead to lawful waste management
- providing operational support for NSW public land managers, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, councils and communities for prevention and clean-up
- developing a kerbside dumping program to help councils and land managers reduce illegal dumping around MUDs and on kerbsides
- continuing to work with charitable recyclers to address illegal dumping around charity stores and bins, including a campaign to raise community awareness of the issues, and continuing to trial prevention techniques – these actions will be outlined in a Charitable Recyclers Illegal Dumping Action Plan
- continuing to help fund and support RID Squads and Programs
- training and supporting council officers and other public land managers through field support, workshops, training in the POEO Act and use of surveillance cameras, best practice guides and case studies, to reduce illegal dumping.

Approach: education and awareness

Why is education important?

To reduce illegal dumping in the long term, we need to change how people dispose of their waste. This means delivering programs that change people's behaviour and influence their waste management decisions.

Our social research will help us develop and trial strategies that target different behaviours, situations and barriers that lead to illegal dumping.

For example, we found that seeing others illegally dump made people feel more comfortable doing it themselves, and 35% of those surveyed had dumped waste illegally. To change this behaviour, our strategy will focus on creating a social norm that illegal dumping is wrong.

How are we doing this?

The EPA supports councils, public land managers, Local Aboriginal Land Councils and charities to engage with the community about illegal dumping. We have developed branding, messaging and signs for our partners to use to raise public awareness.

Our ongoing campaigns target focus areas – such as illegal landfilling, dumping of asbestos waste and dumping of household waste – to raise awareness of responsibilities and laws and influence behaviour.

We have also developed RID messaging, branding and signs we can all use to send a consistent message across New South Wales (see Figures 5 and 6).



Figure 5: RIDonline logo

How will we continue this work?

We will continue educating and changing behaviour by:

- expanding the public presence of EPA developed branding such as RID branding, messaging and signs
- developing an illegal dumping communication plan. This will guide who, when and how we communicate with our stakeholders to promote and engage with our work
- trialling behaviour change programs to reduce illegal dumping at MUDs, in line with our research results
- educating landowners and raising awareness of illegal landfilling, including the dangers of accepting free fill
- developing an online illegal dumping kit for our stakeholders, with research data, case studies and advice on designing effective programs
- producing, distributing and evaluating targeted education materials to improve waste management behaviour.

Approach: prevention, infrastructure and clean-up

How can we prevent illegal dumping?

Prevention and deterrence are central to reducing illegal dumping. With the help of our social research and our partners, we have established five targeted methods:

1. making dumping harder using infrastructure, like fencing and lighting
2. increasing the risk of getting caught
3. reducing financial gains of dumping
4. making it easy to dispose of waste lawfully
5. educating the community.

Cleaning up illegally dumped waste is important as it sends the message that waste does not belong there, and removes environmental and health risks. Keeping sites clean reduces the risk of more dumping.

Charities are burdened with the costs of cleaning up unusable household waste and clothing dumped around charity stores and bins. We are working with charitable organisations and funding programs to tackle the problem.

Councils and public land managers need significant infrastructure and resourcing to prevent illegal dumping across large areas. We have been supporting them through grants and funding for local strategies.

All of our approaches aim to prevent illegal dumping.

What infrastructure do we need?

Adequate, well-located facilities for waste disposal and recycling will deter people from illegal dumping. We are working with local councils to research and promote the best ways to provide the community with the services and infrastructure they need. This includes setting up new community recycling centres in priority areas such as Sydney and stimulating investment in new waste processing technologies and capacity.

Strategically located gates and barriers should be installed to reduce opportunistic dumping and restrict access to secluded or remote areas. Well-placed signs also support our efforts to deter illegal dumping.

How will we continue this work?

We will continue to support our partners through the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative providing \$4 million for programs including:

- Combating Illegal Dumping: Clean-up and Prevention Program
- Reducing Illegal Dumping on NSW Charitable Recyclers Program
- funding and supporting local councils and public land managers to use surveillance and prevention techniques to detect and deter illegal dumpers
- Aboriginal Lands Clean-up Program.

We will also provide and develop services across >90% of the state for residents to dispose of problem wastes at Community Recycling Centres.

The Environmental Trust additionally provides \$500,000 annually to support the Illegal Dumping Asbestos Clean-up Program (IDACUP).

**ONE
IN
TEN**

local councils

spend over

\$500,000

a year

preventing, monitoring
and enforcing illegal
dumping.

Approach: regulation and enforcement

Why do we regulate?

Our research shows that fewer people will dump waste if they think they will get caught, we make dumping harder and we reduce financial gains of dumping. This is why we all need to work together to enforce illegal dumping laws.

We rely on everyone to report illegal dumping to the Environment Line (131 555) and RIDonline (ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au) so we can investigate crime and target hotspots and problem waste.

We run strategic compliance campaigns and use a range of tools to target problem areas, opportunistic illegal dumpers and organised networks of unlawful waste operators.

Regulation and enforcement help to change behaviour, protect the environment and reduce health risks.

What are the illegal dumping laws?

The range of illegal dumping offences includes unlawful transport and disposal of waste, and polluting the environment. The *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and the Protection of the Environment (Waste) Regulation 2014 provide the regulatory framework.

Many state and local government agencies can enforce illegal dumping laws. Local councils usually regulate small-scale dumping, while the EPA regulates larger incidences.

We now have stronger penalties, new powers and more tools to tackle illegal dumping. Our penalty notice amounts are now Australia's toughest, with fines of up to \$15,000 for corporations and \$7500 for individuals. We also have tough new laws, including a prison sentence of up to two years for repeat offenders. We can install GPS tracking devices and impound vehicles used for illegal dumping. Waste transporters must now use WasteLocate to record the movement of asbestos and used tyres. We are also tackling the illegal dumping of tyres through increased EPA regulation of waste tyre facilities.

How will we continue this work?

The NSW Government has committed another \$52 million under *Waste Less, Recycle More* to support strategic compliance programs by:

- using targeted compliance campaigns with our partners, including targeting illegal asbestos disposal by commercial operators
- working with our RID Squads and Programs
- building the regulatory capacity of councils and public land managers
- using our new regulatory tools and stronger powers to catch dumpers and address illegal waste disposal and fraud
- targeting large-scale illegal landfilling in a strategic manner and delivering a multi-phase program that focuses on waste generation, transportation and disposal
- undertaking strategic investigations and prosecutions using the evidence base built by WasteLocate, RIDonline and the EPA's Waste and Resource Reporting Portal (WARRP).

Approach: evaluation and monitoring

Why do we need to monitor our work?

As we learn more about illegal dumping, we should also review our actions and tactics. We need to know what works, what doesn't work, and why.

Our target is to reduce illegal dumping by 30% by 2020. Setting baseline evidence is key to tracking and evaluating progress towards our target.

We will be measuring our success from July 2017.

What have we done so far?

We have a team dedicated to implementing the *NSW Illegal Dumping Strategy 2017–21*, and a monitoring, reporting and evaluation framework for this strategy.

The RIDonline database is a publicly available reporting tool enabling us to gather statewide baseline data. RIDonline will help us gather the data we need to effectively combat illegal dumping.

Accurate data will help us to:

- understand the nature, extent and causes of illegal dumping
- roll out successful projects
- target our efforts
- monitor illegal dumping rates.

We also use partner reports from our grant programs, including information on preventative measures and clean-ups to monitor our work.

How will we continue this work?

We will evaluate and monitor our work by:

- implementing an illegal dumping monitoring and evaluation framework to guide and review our work
- continuing to improve and increase data capture
- using this data to monitor our progress, inform our programs and policies and identify new ways to reduce illegal dumping
- continuing to evaluate our funded projects to determine what works and why
- sharing the successes and challenges each year through our illegal dumping toolkit and media and stakeholder communication to drive continuous improvement.

Every two years we will publish a NSW Illegal Dumping Report to inform the public of our work, funding commitments and progress under this strategy.

The EPA will review and update the action table every two years until 30 June 2021.

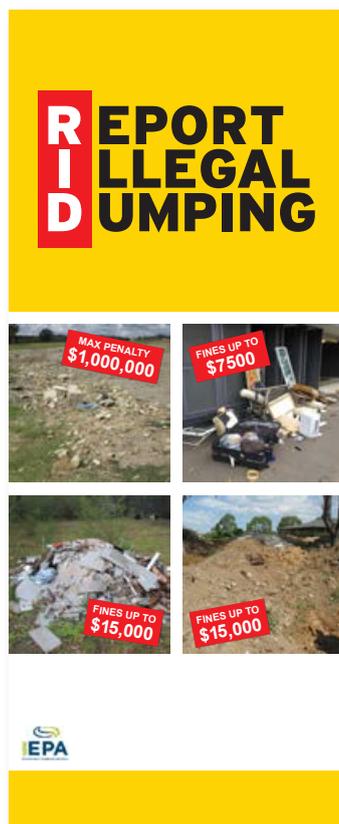


Figure 6: RID banner

Illegal Dumping Strategy Action Table (updated every two years)

	Building an evidence base	Stakeholder engagement and capacity building	Education and awareness	Prevention, infrastructure and clean-up	Regulation and enforcement	Evaluation and monitoring
AIMS →	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal dumping programs are informed by strong evidence. We improve understanding of illegal dumping and illegal dumping behaviour. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to build and maintain stakeholder relationships. We increase stakeholder use of EPA materials, signage and tools. Public land managers, councils and communities have the knowledge and skills to create practical local and regional solutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The waste industry and community understands the waste management framework. Social norms encourage reuse and ensure people dispose of unwanted items and waste correctly. The community and industry know about fines and penalties for illegal dumping. Reporting illegal dumping is a social norm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problem waste reuse and disposal facilities are easily accessible. Land managers and councils have more clean-up capacity. Public land managers and councils are equipped to prevent illegal dumping. All stakeholders adopt measures to prevent illegal dumping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is more strategic regulation of large-scale illegal dumping and use of new regulatory tools. There is better enforcement of illegal dumping offences. Enforcement action is integrated with education, infrastructure and prevention tools. The community reports illegal dumping. We reduce illegal dumping from businesses. EPA is seen as a credible regulator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions are based on data and outcomes achieved. All groups have information and data on illegal dumping so we can coordinate action.
ACTIONS →	<p>Ongoing Collect intelligence and data through waste tracking methods (WasteLocate and GPS monitoring provision) (Established 2014).</p>	<p>Ongoing Support and fund the Regional Illegal Dumping Squads/Programs.</p>	<p>Ongoing Provide training for public land managers on prevention and enforcement techniques.</p>	<p>Ongoing Fund prevention infrastructure and collateral through the Reducing Illegal Dumping on NSW Charitable Recyclers (RIDCR) program.</p>	<p>Ongoing Use stronger penalties, new powers and tools to address illegal waste disposal and fraud in the waste sector.</p>	<p>Ongoing Implement an illegal dumping monitoring and evaluation framework.</p>
	<p>Achieved Complete social research of the construction and demolition industry to understand knowledge, attitudes and behaviours on waste management, transport and disposal.</p>	<p>Ongoing Give operational support to public land managers, LALC, councils and communities for prevention and clean-up.</p>	<p>Ongoing Targeted education to influence lawful waste management practices and raise awareness of the impacts and penalties for illegal dumping.</p>	<p>Ongoing Support, improve and fund the Illegal Dumping Asbestos Clean-up Program (IDACUP).</p>	<p>Ongoing Undertake strategic prosecutions and investigations into large-scale illegal dumping.</p>	<p>Ongoing Publish a NSW Illegal Dumping Report every two years.</p>
	<p>Achieved Research the behavioural drivers in home renovations to inform an Asbestos Waste Strategy.</p>	<p>Ongoing Engage with industry to improve waste management at development, construction and infrastructure sites.</p>	<p>July 2018 Develop an illegal dumping communication package.</p>	<p>Ongoing Develop and provide services for residents to dispose of problem wastes including asbestos.</p>	<p>Ongoing Deliver a multi-phase program targeting illegal landfilling, with a focus on waste generation, transportation and disposal.</p>	<p>Ongoing Use our evidence base to monitor and evaluate programs and policies.</p>
	<p>Achieved Research the behavioural drivers for householders obtaining fill.</p>	<p>August 2018 Develop a program to reduce household kerbside dumping.</p>	<p>November 2018 Deliver an online illegal dumping toolkit.</p>	<p>Ongoing Deliver further rounds of the Combating Illegal Dumping Clean-up and Prevention Program.</p>	<p>Ongoing Target prevention and compliance activities using the evidence base built by WasteLocate, WaRRP and RIDonline.</p>	<p>Annually Evaluate funded projects and share challenges and successes each year.</p>
	<p>Achieved Develop a communication package to increase usage, provide training and support for RIDonline.</p>	<p>July 2018 Develop a Charitable Recyclers Illegal Dumping Action Plan.</p>	<p>Achieved Develop a communication plan for householders to raise awareness of the dangers of accepting free fill.</p>	<p>Ongoing Deliver further rounds of the Aboriginal land clean-up and prevention program.</p>	<p>Annually Deliver compliance campaigns with each RID Squad/Program to target local illegal dumping issues.</p>	
	<p>June 2018 Collect the costs of illegal dumping.</p>	<p>August 2018 Partner with planning authorities and services to achieve better outcomes and ensure that approvals lead to lawful waste management.</p>	<p>April 2018 Roll out a behaviour change program to reduce illegal dumping at multi-unit dwellings.</p>	<p>Ongoing Provide support and promote the use of surveillance and prevention techniques by local councils and public land managers.</p>	<p>Annually Deliver strategic compliance to target priority issues.</p>	
			<p>September 2018 Review and increase usage of EPA branding including 'RID' branding in public and the media (Established 2014).</p>		<p>Annually Deliver a compliance campaign targeting illegal transport and dumping of asbestos by commercial operators.</p>	

KEY → **STAKEHOLDERS** EPA • Local councils • Public land managers • NSW Government agencies • Aboriginal groups • NGOs and community groups • Community • Charities • Waste industry and business • Developers • Land holders
RID Squad and Programs