

Case study
July 2016
to
May 2017

COVER YOUR LOAD

Uncovered loads create litter and attract hefty fines.



Photography: Sign to discourage littering from uncovered loads; RAMROC Riverina

Keep our roads litter-free

Permanent roadside signage provides a constant reminder that covering loads prevents roadside litter

This project by RAMROC Riverina Waste Group, a voluntary group working on waste and resource management, targeted roadside litter from uncovered vehicles. Litter volumes dropped 62% across six projects sites, with Carrathool, Griffith, Hay, Leeton, Murrumbidgee and Narrandera councils gaining from the project.

What was the problem?

RAMROC Riverina's regional litter strategy identified roadside litter as the largest issue its councils face. Uncovered vehicle loads travelling to waste depots are a key cause, Local Litter Checks confirmed.

What did we do?

The RAMROC Riverina Waste Group:

- used Local Litter Checks to quantify litter at project sites
- cleaned up litter hotspots with help from community groups

- ran an education campaign, including brochures and newspaper advertising
- installed 'cover your load' signage on approach to waste depots.

What did we achieve?

- Litter volumes decreased by 62% across all six project sites.
- Uncovered load incidents significantly decreased, gatekeepers at waste depots reported.

How we evaluated our project

We performed Local Litter Checks before and after the project, and quantified the percentage of covered loads at each waste depot.

What did we learn?

- With a relatively modest funding, we can change public attitudes to litter prevention, with significant results.
- Community groups have influence in smaller communities; having them conduct litter clean-ups promoted the project and raised the profile of litter prevention.



Community groups cleaning up; RAMROC Riverina.

Photos: RAMROC Riverina

NSW Environment Protection Authority
 Email: info@epa.nsw.gov.au
 Website: www.epa.nsw.gov.au
 ISBN 978 1 925688 74 0 | EPA 2017P0452
 December 2017

ⁱ RAMROC: Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils.

Cost

Grant:
\$35,000

In-kind:
\$6,250

Total cost:
\$41,250

Contact:

John Craig
Riverina Waste
Group

Email:

[johnc@
cdiaust.com.au](mailto:johnc@cdiaust.com.au)