



Rob Stokes MP
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
Minister for the Central Coast
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MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT HELPS CHARITIES CRACK DOWN ON ILLEGAL DUMPING

Environment Minister Rob Stokes today announced new assistance for charities to bring illegal dumpers to justice over the Christmas holiday period.

Mr Stokes said the grant will go to surveillance experts Envirocam to review footage from surveillance cameras installed using NSW Government Waste Less Recycle More grants awarded earlier this year.

“Illegal dumping is especially callous when done to a charity at this time of year,” Mr Stokes said.

“Charities receive an estimated two billion donations each year, but up to 40 per cent of this is unusable rubbish that costs charities precious time and money to clean up.

“Charities such as St Vincent de Paul, the Salvation Army and Mission Australia found surveillance cameras to be a welcome deterrent to illegal dumpers at their sites and some of the incidents captured are still under investigation.

“To further help charities, the Environment Protection Authority is enlisting Envirocam to review tapes from a number of sites during December and January, and report any dumping incidents to partnering councils.

“Illegal dumpers identified on the cameras could face regulatory action ranging from a warning letter through to fines of up to \$4,000.”

National Association of Charitable Recycling Organisations CEO Kerryn Caulfield said illegal dumping had a big impact on charities, volunteers and staff.

“This time of year is heartbreaking for volunteers who return after the break to be faced with piles rubbish dumped amongst the donations,” Ms Caulfield said.

“We hope that by educating people we can eliminate that drain on charity resources and the volunteers and staff who have the unpleasant job of dealing with the rubbish.”

Charity groups that will benefit from the funding include St Vincent de Paul in the Hunter; the Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul in Armidale; Mission Australia in Wollongong and St Vincent de Paul in Brookvale.

For more information visit the website here:

<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/WasteLess.htm>

FOOTAGE AVAILABLE:

- CCTV footage of illegal dumping incidents. Please contact Daniel Hill on the number below.
- Online “Donator or Dumper” video created using a Waste Less Recycle More grant to Armidale Dumaresq Council.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szo82jJQtw8>