CIRCULAR



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title
Illegal Dumping Enforcement
Amendment Act of 2024
Number
CIR-25-14
Effective Date
March 11, 2025
Expiration Date
March 11, 2027
Related to:
GO-SPT-401.01 (Field Reporting System)
GO-SPT-302.01 (Calls for Service)

The purpose of this circular is to inform Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) members of the expansion of the definition of "solid waste" pursuant to the *Illegal Dumping Enforcement Amendment Act of 2024*.

Need to Know

Expands the definition of solid waste. Additions appear in **bold** text.

"Solid waste" means combustible or incombustible refuse. Solid waste includes appliances, furniture, mattresses, shopping carts, tires, dirt, sand, sawdust, gravel, clay, loam, stone, rocks, rubble, building rubbish, shavings, trade or household waste, refuse, ashes, manure, vegetable matter, paper, dead animals, garbage or debris of any kind, any other organic or inorganic material or thing, or any other offensive matter.

Offense

Illegal Dumping: It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose or cause or permit the disposal of solid waste, hazardous waste, or medical waste in or upon any street, lot, park, public place, or any other public or private area, whether or not for a commercial purpose, unless the site is authorized for the disposal of solid waste, hazardous waste or medical waste by the Mayor.

Penalty

Any person who violates this subsection shall be subject to arrest. Any person who disposes of solid waste which is neither hazardous nor medical waste shall be subject to:

- First Offense: A fine up to \$5,000.
- Subsequent Offenses: A fine up to \$10,000, imprisonment for up to 90 days, or both.

Any person who disposes of solid waste for a commercial purpose shall be subject to:

• A fine up to \$40,000, imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.

Individuals are liable and responsible for paying 3 times the cost and expense incurred by the Mayor for cleaning and clearing the site where the unlawful disposal occurred and for properly disposing of the solid waste.

Reference DC Official Code § 8–901 et seq.

While this circular will expire on March 11, 2027, changes made to the DC Official Code as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as they are amended.

> Pamela A. Smith Chief of Police