



What caused this mess?? Hurricane.....NO!! Tornado..... NO!! Flood.....NO!!

If you said.....Illegal Dumping in Columbia County, you would be RIGHT!

Illegal dumping in Columbia County is a serious problem. In 2010, the Columbia County DumpStoppers Program cleaned up 70 illegal dumpsite on County owned property and/or County Right-of-Way.

If you would like to help deter illegal dumping in Columbia County and get involved with your community, contact the

Columbia County DumpStoppers @ 503.397.7230

Frequently asked questions about DumpStoppers

Q) Besides general household trash, what are the most common items found at an illegal dumpsite?

A) The most common items are: Tires, Appliances, Furniture, Electronics and Construction Debris.

Q) Does the DumpStoppers Program ever ‘catch illegal dumpers’?

A) Yes. Unfortunately, only about 5% of illegal dumpers are caught. Having increased community awareness and reporting of suspicious activity does increase the chances of catching individuals conducting illegal dumping.

Q) I own property and someone dumped garbage and debris on it. Can DumpStoppers clean up the dump site?

A) No. The Columbia County DumpStoppers Program cannot clean up privately owned property. IF someone does dump debris on your property, contact the Columbia County Sheriff or Oregon State Police.

Q) My neighbor has junk piled everywhere, including their household garbage, cat litter, etc. Can DumpStoppers clean up their yard?

A) No. The Columbia County DumpStoppers Program cannot clean up privately owned property. In a case like this, contact the Columbia County Code Enforcement Officer @ 503.397.7230 as this could be considered a nuisance site.

Q) How is the DumpStoppers Program funded?

A) The Columbia County DumpStoppers Program is funded by the Solid Waste Fund, which is supported by tip-fees at the Transfer Station. So, every resident and business of Columbia County that self-hauls to the Transfer Station or has curbside garbage services pays for the clean up of illegal dumpsites in Columbia County.

Q) How many employees staff the DumpStoppers Program?

A) The DumpStoppers Program is staffed by the Code Enforcement Officer, the Solid Waste Coordinator and three maintenance employees, with some administrative management oversight included.

Q) I was hiking on privately owned timberlands and noticed a large dumpsite. Does DumpStoppers clean up these sites?

A) Currently, no. The timberland owner is responsible for the clean up of the dumpsite. The Columbia County DumpStoppers Program and some private timberland owners may possibly partner up in the future to clean up these sites, but not as of today.

Q) I was driving along a county road and saw debris scattered along the roadway and a deer carcass in a ditch. Does the DumpStoppers Program clean up this type of debris?

A) No. General trash along roadways and animal carcasses are handled by the Columbia County Road Department.

Q) How can I help deter illegal dumping?

A) Get involved by reporting suspicious activities on rural roads, turn outs, privately owned timberland or private property gates as these are the most common locations for illegal dumping activities. In fact there are a few community ‘groups’ that have helped clean up of small dumpsites, like a group of residents along Cater Rd.