

EA Waste Management  
Box 4

***Round-up of National & Regional  
Media Coverage of the Landfill Tax  
introduction & Flytipping Crack Down***

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



122703

## Introduction

In the lead-up to the introduction of the Landfill Tax on 1 October 1996, concerns were being publicly expressed, particularly by landowners and local authorities, that the increased cost of using landfill sites would lead to an increase in fly-tipping and illegal dumping.

To respond to these concerns the press office developed, in liaison with the waste regulation function, a PR strategy with the following aims:

- \* To help contain any increase in fly-tipping after the landfill tax was introduced,
- \* To improve the quality and quantity of information on fly-tippers supplied to the Agency,
- \* To help the Agency improve co-operation with the police, local authorities and the legitimate waste industry,
- \* To raise the profile of the Agency's role and work in relation to waste.

The main means of achieving these aims, given the short time frame within which the Agency was working, was to gain positive media coverage of the Agency's move to 'crack-down' on fly-tipping. The 'crackdown' took the form of promoting Agency co-operation with the police, local authorities and other interested groups as well as calling on the public to report any incidents of serious fly-tipping which they witnessed, by calling the Agency's 0800 80 70 60 hotline.

The success achieved in terms of gaining positive media coverage was considerable, particularly in the local papers which saw the opportunity to help address a problem of considerable concern to many communities. Significant effort was also made to reach specific audiences such as the police, the construction industry (to remind them of their duty of care in relation to waste) and local authorities, by targeting specialist journals serving these groups with news releases customised to address the concerns of their respective audiences.

Since the introduction of the tax it has been noted that:

- \* there does not appear to have been a significant increase in fly-tipping, and concerns about such an increase seem to have dropped from the public agenda for the present,
- \* and, the number of waste related calls taken on the 0800 emergency line rose from 169 in September to 301 in October after the public were encouraged to call the number if they witnessed significant fly-tipping incidents.

The Agency is continuing to monitor the situation and the press office is prepared to consider further publicity and awareness initiatives as required.

Head Office Press Office  
November 1996

*National & Regional  
Broadcast Summaries*

**THE TODAY PROGRAMME RADIO 4 01/10/96**  
07:20:22 to 07:24:23

**NEW LAND FILL TAX** - is designed to encourage less waste and more recycling. **INTERVIEW: MIKE CHILDS, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH** - he said that they want the tax increased so that it discourages incineration.

**STUDIO INTERVIEW: JOHN GUMMER, GOVERNMENT MINISTER** - he said that they are moving taxes from jobs to resources with this. He said that incineration is not necessarily bad and discussed the approach to waste taken by councils. He said that the **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY** has beefed up its system to deal with illegal dumpers..

**YOU AND YOURS RADIO 4 30/09/96**  
12:18:24 to 12:24:31

**RUBBISH TAX INTRODUCED TOMORROW** - **ANABELLA SCNADHORSE** reported that the new tax is claimed as a really green tax. The hope is that over time land fills will disappear. The fear is that the money will be used to reduce our National Insurance. **STUDIO INTERVIEW: DEREK GOODENOUGH, LEICESTER COUNTY COUNCIL** - The householder is unaware of the tax so there is no inclination for him to recycle more. Therefore the cost lies purely on the shoulders of the council. Illegal dump contractors will rise and this will cause additional cost to the local authorities. **ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY** will also be looking into the new tax. **STUDIO INTERVIEW: JOHN GUMMER, ENVIRONMENT SEC** - All the council need to do is to encourage the house owner to recycle more which will make a huge difference and will end up reducing the taxes paid. I want people to change their life styles. Reporter: There is talk of a carbon tax on fuel.

**NEWS BBC R WILTSHIRE SOUND 29/09/96**  
09:04:00 to 09:05:00

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY** - Cracks down on fly tippers in the region. Details were given in brief.

**Countryfile BBC2 22.9.96 12.00 - 12.05**

**Interview with Steve Lee - Midlands Region Regional Waste Manager**

**HTV WEST NEWS HTV WEST (BRISTOL) 01/10/96**  
18:35:00 to 18:37:00

**LANDFILL TAX** - could lead to more tipping of rubbish in streets and the countryside.  
**INTERVIEW:** ROGER WILDE, SENIOR ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - The Agency will become more vigilant.

**SOUTH TONIGHT ILR MERCURY EXTRA 01/10/96**  
18:23:00 to 18:25:00

**LANDFILL TAX** - There are fears it could lead to an increase in roadside dumping. The Environment Agency are encouraging people in Sussex and Surrey to report anybody seen fly tipping. **INTERVIEW:** DAVE WATSON, SUSSEX WASTE MANAGER.

**MERSEYSIDE TONIGHT BBC RADIO MERSEYSIDE 01/10/96**  
17:39:00 to 17:41:00

**ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY IS CALLING ON PUBLIC** - to help them on illegal dumping.  
**INTERVIEW:** JEREMY FROST, ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY POLLUTION MANAGER - worried introduction of landfill tax may make problem worse. Chancellor's hoping to bring in £400mn a year and are worried people will try to dispose of waste illegally. Hoping people will look at minimising waste and only using landfill site as a last resort. Hotline no. 0800 80 70 60.

---

**TONIGHT BBC RADIO STOKE 01/10/96**  
16:54:00 to 16:55:00

**TAX ON WASTE** - Environmentalists are worried it will lead to an increase in illegal tipping.  
**INTERVIEW:** JEREMY FROST, POLLUTION CONTROL, MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - commented.

---

**LUNCHTIME NEWS BBC RADIO NORTHAMPTON 01/10/96**  
13:07:00 to 13:10:00

**LAND-FILL TAX** - Explanation of the tax. Concerns that fly-tipping could increase. **INTERVIEW:** CHRIS MURPHY, REGIONAL BRANCH, INSTITUTE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT - explains the system. **INTERVIEW:** PETER JONES, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, BIFA - runs landfill sites. **INTERVIEW:** JOHN DICKSON, WASTE POLICY MANAGER, NORTHANTS CC. **INTERVIEW:** CLLR BEN SMITH, DAVENTRY DC. **INTERVIEW:** JOHN MILNE, WASTE CAMPAIGNER, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH. **INTERVIEW:** DONALD THOMAS, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, ANGLIAN REGION.

**JIMMY YOUNG RADIO 2 01/10/96**  
12:34:00 to 12:43:00

**NEW GREEN TAX** - **INTERVIEW:** JOHN GUMMER MP, ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY - Commented that the idea behind the new tax related to waste was to cut the tax on National Insurance. The idea was to switch the tax from jobs to environmentally harmful things. The ENVIRONMENT AGENCY would pep up its enforcement system. There was also the launch of a hotline to outlaw fly tippers. If the Environment Agency needed greater power then they would be granted it. The government had introduced a sensible taxation system which did not increase costs.

---

**ALAN BESWICK BBC RADIO GMR TALK 01/10/96**  
11:08:00 to 11:25:00

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES - INTERVIEW: DR SUE WALKER, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY.  
INTERVIEW: DR CATHY BROOKES, ENVIRONMENTALIST.

---

**MID MORNING SHOW BBC RADIO CLEVELAND 01/10/96**  
11:18:00 to 11:32:00

LANDFILL TAX - Listeners encouraged to phone in with views. INTERVIEW: ROBIN TUFF, LANDFILL TAX IMPLEMENTATION TEAM - He described the new landfill tax and how it would work. The object is to encourage more recycling. The rates are high compared to Europe. INTERVIEW: ANA THOMAS, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH - We do not believe it will encourage more recycling. There will be more incineration. We need to see taxes on virgin resources. INTERVIEW: LES MILNES, ASST. HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPT STOCKTON BOROUGH COUNCIL - it will cost Teeside boroughs £650,000. We have unique problems in this part of the country. INTERVIEW: DAVID HASLING, CHAIRMAN HOUSEBUILDERS FEDERATION NORTHERN COUNTIES TECHNICAL GROUP - The new tax will make new houses more expensive. The exemption for contaminated land is good. Skip operators will have to increase charges.

---

**ESSEX TODAY BBC RADIO ESSEX 01/10/96**  
11:44:00 to 11:57:00

LANDFILL TAX - INTERVIEW: BOB BALLAST, NATIONAL FEDERATION OF BUILDERS. INTERVIEW: DAVID TUTHILL, ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL. INTERVIEW: ANDREW CONSTANTINE, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY. INTERVIEW: JOHN BARBER, CUSTOM & EXCISE. INTERVIEW: JOHN DAVIES, GROUND WORK ACTION GROUP.

---

**NEWS WEST BBCTV WEST BRISTOL 01/10/96**  
08:28:00 to 08:29:00

THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - is to introduce a flytipping hotline for people to inform on illegal waste dumping.

---

**IOW NEWS ILR I.OF WIGHT RADIO 01/10/96**  
08:00:00 to 08:01:00

ILLEGAL WASTE TIPPERS - to be cracked down on by the ENVIRONMENT AGENCY as the new LANDFILL TAX is introduced. INTERVIEW: JANE ALLEN, EA - people are worried about informing, the helpline shows them that there is something that they can do.

---

**LANTERN FM NEWS ILR LANTERN FM 01/10/96**  
08:05:00 to 08:06:00

ORCHARD FM NEWS ILR ORCHARD FM SOM. 01/10/96  
07:05:00 to 07:06:00

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - in the SW is stepping up its campaign against the illegal dumping of waste with the introduction of the new landfill tax.

ILLEGAL WASTE - crackdown on illegal waste. INTERVIEW: HEATHER BARKER, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - our teams will increase vigilance.

GEMINI NEWS ILR GEMINI AM 01/10/96.  
07:00:40 to 07:01:14

LANDFILL TAX - comes into effect as of today and is being hailed as a lifeline for the DEVON countryside. The ENVIRONMENT AGENCY spokesperson hopes that it will encourage companies to look for alternatives. VV: HEATHER BARKER, EA.

NEWDAY BBC RADIO CAMBRIDGE 01/10/96  
07:10:00 to 07:16:00

LANDFILL TAX - Report by Georgie Bevan. INTERVIEW: CLIVE CARR, EAST WASTE - We will have to charge people more for dumping waste. INTERVIEW: KEITH STONNEL, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - Landfill is the worst environmental option. INTERVIEW: NICKY BARNES, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT - It is a good way to get people to recycle.

---

COAST TO COAST BBC R CORNWALL 01/10/96  
07:21:00 to 07:26:00

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY LAUNCH CRACKDOWN AGAINST FLY TIPPING - Report by Chris Lidden. INTERVIEW: DEAN EVANS, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - We plan to work closely with local councils.

---

GOOD MORNING DEVON BBC RADIO DEVON 01/10/96  
08:21:00 to 08:25:00

LANDFILL TAX - comes into force today. INTERVIEW: HEATHER BARKER, EA DEVON WASTER MANAGER - the potential problem of flytipping could increase, we are increasing our vigilance and asking the public to do the same thing. The hotline we have set up means that anyone can report flytipers.

# 1 CONSUMER Tipping

## SHOP THE FLY-TIPPERS, PUBLIC URGED

By Moira Whittle, Consumer Affairs Correspondent, PA News

People are being asked from today to report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally.

The Environment Agency has set up a hotline \_ 0800 807060 \_ for the public to call if they see fly-tipping taking place.

The telephone campaign, which follows the social security fraud hotline, is designed to take advantage of the introduction of the Landfill Tax.

From now on, the Environment Agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend 10 million clearing it up.

Caroline John, head of waste regulation at the Environment Agency, said: "The Agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

A survey by the Tidy Britain Group shows that local authorities, who already consider fly-tipping to be a major problem, expect to see an increase in illegal dumping.

Domestic and garden waste and building rubble are the materials most frequently fly-tipped. Favourite impromptu dumps include country lanes, lay-bys, derelict land and back alleys.

end

010441 OCT 96

## Following the tangled trail of illegal tippers

£30m-a-year problem may worsen with the introduction of an 'eco-levy' on landfill sites

**A**t 6am, the inspectors from London's environmental crime squad are stalking criminals who make fortunes from the illegal dumping of waste while most citizens sleep.

Crouching in the back of a surveillance van, Inspector Keith F - he asks not to be fully identified for fear of retribution - monitors the comings and goings of suspected fly-tippers. The location is a corner of south London which he does not want identified for fear of alerting the suspected fly-tippers to an impending prosecution against them.

"It's too early for them to be doing anything else," says the ex-police detective.

Every year the thousands of tonnes of rubbish fly-tipped around the UK costs local authorities and private companies £30m a to clean up. The problem is expected to worsen from today when the government's new tax on landfill sites comes into effect.

The aim of Britain's first eco-tax is to encourage more environmentally friendly forms of rubbish disposal than landfill - such as recycling and incineration to generate energy.

However, the Environment Agency's crime unit fears that the levy - ranging from £2 to £7 a tonne - will encourage fly-tipping, the even more unfriendly option, as some businesses seek to evade the new tax.

The fears are shared by legitimate waste management companies such as

Biffa, which points out: "For every fly-tipper there is a customer who is not asking whether his waste is being disposed of properly."

Mr Roger Wood of Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants, who is an expert on the new tax, quotes one scrapyard operator as telling him: "I know what I'm going to do about the tax. A lot of scrap vehicles will be going down a country lane one night."

According to Inspector F, the most typical fly-tippers are "nasty people with an

underworld of their own". They run small businesses which charge customers such as builders as little as half the £80-per-tonne charged for disposal in properly engineered landfill sites.

A few miles away from the suspected fly-tipping companies monitored by the unit that morning, an abandoned power plant site provides an eerie illustration of the problem.

The site, earmarked for a housing development, displays dozens of neat mounds

of accumulated earth deposited recently by fly-tippers.

"This is not done haphazardly," says Inspector F. "They were working their way forward and this site would have been full up had they not been stopped. This could contain anything, toxic waste, whatever."

The dumping - which took place on just one Saturday morning - was stopped after a passing policeman noticed the fly-tippers dumping the waste. He could not arrest them on the spot because

the law does not allow officers to arrest fly-tippers unless they can be proven on the spot to be depositing hazardous waste. Instead, he notified the site's owners who then beefed up security to prevent further unloading by the fly-tippers.

Although the crime unit believes it keeps the lid on what it sees as the nation's most serious environmental crime, it is hamstrung by a number of problems.

One is a shortage of resources: the environmen-

tal crime unit for the whole of the Thames region has only five inspectors. Inspector Tim B says the unit relies a lot on intelligence-sharing with Customs & Excise and other official bodies.

But awareness of environmental crime remains low among other parts of the law enforcement machinery, which is one reason why the Department of Environment is hosting a conference on October 16.

A third problem is inefficient legislation, which does not even allow law enforcers to seize the lorries of fly-tippers caught in the act.

Even once the unit has seized a lorry, there is nothing stopping the owners selling the vehicle to third parties who then claim them as their rightful property.

Fly-tipping of hazardous waste carries a maximum sentence of five years prison and an unlimited fine. But only a few of the 70 investigations undertaken by the unit since April are likely to land offenders behind bars.

The Environment Agency says it is counting on members of the public to come forward with information to help it successfully prosecute the fly-tippers. But, perhaps not surprisingly, Inspector F believes that neglect of the problem is due to "the fact that most people see the environment as something they dump their rubbish in".

Leyla Boulton

## Landfill Tax is now due

THE Landfill Tax, Britain's first attempt at shifting tax away from jobs and on to pollution, comes into force today, writes Charles Clover, Environment Editor.

The tax, which is intended to create jobs and reduce waste, is the first step towards an ecological reform of the tax system, a concept endorsed by the European Union leaders at the Florence summit in June.

It will raise about £500 million, which will

enable the Chancellor to reduce employers' national insurance contributions, but could lead to rises in council tax as local authorities pass on the charge.

A further effect of the tax is likely to be an increase in recycling facilities.

The Environment Agency expects there to be an increase in flytipping by operators trying to avoid the tax. It invites the public to report information about fly-tippers on 0800 807060.

## Officers join fly-tip war

Met police officers have been asked to join the fight against fly-tipping by giving information to Environment Agency officers.

The Agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers, who can face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years' jail. The Agency fears tipping may increase following the introduction of the Landfill Tax on October 1.

Officers who catch or see fly-tippers are being asked to forward a copy of their report to the Agency or call 0645 333161.

Farmers Weekly October 4 - 10 1996

## EA flytipping crackdown

THE Environment Agency has pledged a crackdown on illegal waste dumping after the introduction of the new landfill tax.

Landowners and local authorities have warned that the new tax, set at £2/t on inert waste, including soil, and £7/t on all other waste, is likely to increase fly-tipping which is already a big problem on some farms.

But Environment Agency officials say they will be monitoring fly-tipping particularly closely.

The agency is also calling on the public to help by reporting offenders on a free 24-hour emergency hotline (0800-807060).

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions, we need the help of the public," said Donald Thomas, EA regional waste regulation officer.

Vehicle owners can be prosecuted where there is evidence to link the vehicle to fly-tipping incidents, he added. ■

**CAMPAIGN:** Fears that new tax will increase dumping

# Shop the illegal fly-tippers, call

by EDWARD PORTAS

A NEW campaign was launched by environment bosses today in a bid to stop the illegal dumping of waste.

The purge came on the same day as a new tax is introduced which the Government hopes will cut down the amount of waste going into landfill sites and encourage people to recycle more.

But concerns have been expressed that the Landfill Tax may discourage some firms and individuals from using legitimate sites.

And launching its campaign, the Environment Agency, which has its regional HQ in Orton Goldhay, has asked for the public's help in keeping a lid on the problem.

Officers at the agency have the power to prosecute fly-tippers who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years in jail if caught dumping waste illegally.

At the moment, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped each year on public land in England and Wales. Local authorities spend more



than £10 million cleaning up and disposing of it properly.

Fly-tipping causes inconvenience for many local communities, it creates high removal costs for private landowners and, where toxic waste is dumped, it can threaten the environment and health.

Environment Agency regional waste regulation officer Donald Thomas said: "The agency supports the Landfill

Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers. If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the make, registration and a description of both the vehicle

and the waste deposited, then call the agency."

Warning signs for fly-tipping are: Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles, heavy vehicles in areas where they are not usually seen, trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property, and drivers keeping a lookout while unloading.

● If you see illegal dumping, call the Hotline on 0800 807060.

## Tax aimed to encourage householders to recycle items

THE new Landfill Tax has been launched to reduce the amount of waste going into the ground.

The Government says it has a commitment to reducing waste disposal and encouraging recycling, and to this end it has set a

target for the year 2000 that every household should recycle 25 per cent of its rubbish.

The new tax will be administered by Customs and Excise and the rates will be: £2 per tonne for inert waste, such as soil, concrete

and uncontaminated glass, and £7 per tonne for everything else.

Waste management companies have the opportunity to donate up to 20 per cent of the income from the tax to environmental projects.

PETERBOROUGH E.T. 1/10/96

■ Agency calls for public's assistance in catching people who dump rubbish illegally

# Call for help to trap the tippers

MEMBERS of the public have been called on to help catch fly-tippers in Northamptonshire.

The Government's Environment Agency is asking people to report any information they have about fly-tipping so it can prosecute the culprits.

People who illegally dump rubbish face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years in prison if prosecuted by the Agency.

Martin Ward, Environment Agency waste regulation man-

ager, said: "We get perhaps 150 calls a year from the public about fly-tipping. Our aim is always to try to prevent it from occurring in the first place.

"If there is clearly illegal activity going on then we will endeavour to take action, which involves a prosecution."

## Waste

Mr Ward said most fly-tippers dumped household waste or garden clippings on public or private land, which then had to be cleared either by

local authorities or land-owners. "Most fly-tipping is by individual members of the public rather than commercial operators. It's mostly isolated incidents," he added.

The clampdown follows the introduction of the Landfill Tax which agency officers fear will increase illegal dumping because of the rise in waste disposal charges.

Anyone with any information about fly-tipping should call the Environment Agency's 24-hour hotline on 0800 807060.



NORTHAMPTON CHRONICLE 3/10/96

# Be green – and make that call!

**PEOPLE** In Norwich were today being asked to help track down illegal fly-tippers by ringing an emergency hotline.

Just four cautions have been issued by the Environment Agency in Norfolk in the last year compared with 29 prosecutions in Cambridgeshire and fines being handed out in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire.

And Agency spokeswoman Gill Aylward said: "I am sure there must be a lot more incidents in Norfolk but they are not coming to our attention.

"That is why we are making the public aware now and want people to use the number to

.....  
by KIRSTY RHODES

report fly-tipping."

The Environment Agency can fine fly-tippers — people who illegally dump rubbish — thousands of pounds and imprison them for up to two years.

Ms Aylward said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them, we rely heavily on the public.

"If people see large amounts of waste being ditched, they should note down the vehicle make, registration and then call the Agency.

"The activity causes inconve-

nience for local communities, creates removal costs for private landowners and where toxic waste is dumped can threaten the environment or human health."

But the agency has warned the public to keep their distance when reporting incidents and not to approach fly-tippers.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is dumped on public land and English and Welsh councils spend over £10 million cleaning and disposing of it.

■ The emergency free 24-hour hotline is 0800 807060. Broadland district residents can report incidents to the council's environmental contracts officer Paul Smith on Norwich 703302.

## ▶ FACT FILE

**TO SPOT** a fly-tipper watch out for:

- Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles
- Heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen
- Trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property
- Drivers keeping a lookout while unloading.

NORWICH EVENING NEWS 7/10/90



**IT IS** not uncommon for a day out in a country beauty spot to be marred by illegally-dumped household rubbish.

Old settees and chairs, rusty washing machines, plastic bags filled with grass clippings ...

You name it, the phantom tippers will provide it.

Quite why people do it is a mystery. Transporting it to these quiet corners must take just as much effort as taking it to an official tip.

But some people have no thought either for the environment or for others. It is thoroughly selfish.

The Environment Agency's appeal to the public to report anyone they see fly-tipping is to be welcomed.

The new Landfill Tax may tempt more businesses to get rid of their waste unofficially.

But most of the blights on the countryside are caused by individual householders.

They must be stopped.

## Fly-tippers face risk of jail

**FLY-TIPPERS** are being targeted as the Environment Agency launches a new 24-hour emergency hotline.

The agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers, who face up to two years in prison, and will be keeping a close eye on the situation after a new landfill tax came into operation on Tuesday.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tons of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend more than £10 million cleaning up...

Regional waste regulation officer Donald Thomas said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take out successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

The new hotline number is 0800 807060.

NORTHAMPTON CHRONICLE

SUFFOLK FREE PRESS 3/10/90

## Crackdown on the dumpers

THE ENVIRONMENT Agency is calling on the public to help crack down on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting information on a free 24 hour Hotline.

Each year over 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales; local authorities spend over £10 million disposing of the waste properly.

The Agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers, who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment.

Call the Emergency Hotline on 0800 807060.

## Clampdown on fly-tippers

MEMBERS of the public have been called on to help catch fly-tippers in Northamptonshire.

The Government's Environment Agency is asking people to report any information they have about fly-tipping so it can prosecute the culprits.

People who illegally dump rubbish face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years in prison if prosecuted.

Anyone with any information about fly-tipping should call the Environment Agency's 24-hour hotline on 0800 807060.

NORTHAMPTON MERCURY  
10/10/96

CAMBRIDGE TOWN Crier  
12/10/96

SOUTHEND EVENING ECHO 2/10/96

## It's your countryside - hammer the fly-tippers

RESIDENTS in Skegness and district are being asked to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste.

The Environment Agency has a free 24 hour emergency hotline for fly-tippers to be reported on. The telephone number is 0800 807060.

The agency has the

power to prosecute fly-tippers, who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment, and will be monitoring fly tipping particularly closely now that the new Landfill Tax was introduced yesterday (Tuesday).

"One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehi-

cles to flytipping," said an Environment Agency spokesman. "If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicles make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the agency."

# Hotline crackdown to shop fly-tippers

ENVIRONMENT watchdogs have launched a crackdown on fly-tippers.

The move coincides with today's introduction of a new Landfill Tax levied by Customs and Excise on waste management companies.

Environment Agency officials believe the new tariffs could lead to an increase in illegal dumping as some of the cost could be passed onto people using the tips.

And they are appealing to the public to shop fly-tippers on a new 24-hour emergency hotline.

The Agency's regional waste regulation officer Donald Thomas said: "We support the Landfill Tax as a means of encouraging waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling, but we are conscious that it will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of

the public."

In Lincolnshire, two companies have been prosecuted for illegal dumping over the past year with courts imposing fines totalling £43,000.

Nationally, each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend more than £10m cleaning it up.

Mr Thomas said: "One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to fly-tipping.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicle's make, registration number, and its description and call the agency," he said.

The agency advises people to watch fly-tippers but not approach them.

The hotline number is 0800 807060.

LINCS ECHO 1/10/90

## Couple's concern over waste tax

CRITICISM that Huntingdonshire District Council was undercutting a local waste disposal firm have proved to be unfounded.

Jenny and George Melville of the St Neots-based firm, DJG Services, were concerned that the district council's operational services department would not pass on the new landfill tax which came into operation on October 1.

The new levy is on all organisations which dispose of waste by landfill, including commercial business and local authorities.

The tax places an additional charge of £7 on every tonne of waste which is disposed of by landfill.

When Mr and Mrs Melville were shown a copy of an official district council letter, it appeared on the surface that the extra cost would not be passed on to council customers until March 1997.

"If they don't pass on the extra cost - as we have to - the council will be trading unfairly," said Mrs Melville, whose business covers the St Neots, St Ives and Ramsey area.

"Not true," said Malcolm Nicholson, client officer for HDC refuse service.

"We have already introduced the extra £7 and we informed our customers in April. Taking the increase into account we averaged the price from April this year to March 1997.

"We felt it would be easier for people to absorb the extra cost if it was done over the period of a year," he added.

● LANDOWNERS and local authorities have expressed concern that the new tax will lead to an increase in flytipping.

The Environment Agency is now calling on the public to help in the crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting fly-tippers on its free 24-hour emergency hotline: 0800 807060.

The agency has the power to prosecute tipplers who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment.

In Cambridgeshire, from April 1995 to 1996, prosecutions led to fines totalling £37,600.

St Ives & Hunt Town Crier

5/10/90

EXPRESS & STAR -  
CANNOCK CHASE; STAFFORD;  
LICHFIELD & TAMWORTH;  
WALSALL  
1 October 1996

COVENTRY EVENING TELEGRAPH  
1 October 1996

## Hotline to shop illegal tippers

People are being asked from today to report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally.

The Environment Agency has set up a hotline - 0800 807060 - for the public to call if they see fly-tipping taking place.

The telephone campaign, which follows the social security fraud hotline, is designed to take advantage of the introduction of the Landfill Tax.

From now on the Environment Agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend £10 million clearing it up.

Caroline John, head of waste regulation at the Environment Agency, said: "The agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping."

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

A survey by the Tidy Britain Group shows that local authorities, who already consider fly-tipping to be a major problem, expect to see an increase in illegal dumping.

## Spot the dumper

PEOPLE are being asked from today to phone a hotline and report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally.

The Environment Agency number is 0800 807060.

EXPRESS & STAR - DUDLEY;  
KIDDERMINSTER; WOLVERHAMPTON  
1 October 1996

## Call to help shop fly-tippers

People are being asked from today to report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally.

The Environment Agency has set up a hotline - 0800 807060 - for the public to call if they see fly-tipping taking place.

The telephone campaign, which follows the social security fraud hotline, is designed to take advantage of the introduction of the Landfill Tax.

From now on, the Environment Agency

has the power to prosecute fly-tippers.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend £10 million clearing it up.

Caroline John, head of waste regulation at the Environment Agency, said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

EVENING TELEGRAPH  
RUGBY; LEAMINGTON;  
NUNEATON & EVENING TRIBUNE  
1 October 1996

## Fly tipping

PEOPLE are being asked from today to phone a hotline and report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally.

The Environment Agency number is 0800 807060.

## Government must act now to curb fly-tipping, warns county litter patrol

COUNTY litter patrolman Neil Marr is calling for more Government investment to stop the blight of fly-tipping getting worse across Hereford-Worcester.

And he has warned that, while fly-tipping in the county is less of a problem than in many counties, the problem will be made worse with the introduction of the Government's Landfill Tax, which imposes a charge for each tonne of buried waste.

"In the past week alone there have been six fresh trade dumpings," he said.

"With just two vehicles to patrol the area from Tewkesbury to Stourport, there could be made more still waiting to be uncovered.

"This situation is bound to deteriorate unless urgent and comprehensive steps are taken to heighten awareness within both the trade and domestic sectors of the community.

"A lot more resources are needed to bolster litter patrols across the county to meet the requirements of the 1991 Environmental Protection Act."

In response to national fears over the increase in fly-tipping, the Environment Agency has now set up a hotline — 0800 807060 — for the public to call if they see fly-tipping taking place.



◀ Neil Marr gets to grips with the remains of yet another fly-tipping incident, this time in Stock Lane, near Leigh Sinton

Picture by JOHN PRATT

## Fly-tipper is fined

A MAN who dumped rubbish in a Notts lay-by has been fined £240 by Nottingham magistrates.

The court was told how Shane Jarvis, of Belvoir Abbey Lane, Aslockton, went to the picturesque lay-by off the A52 at Aslockton and left six bin liners of household waste.

Jarvis, representing himself, admitted a charge of depositing waste without a licence and offered no mitigation.

Prosecuting for the Environment Agency, Mark Knowles told the court that fly-tipping was a common and avoidable nuisance and that Jarvis accepted he could easily have driven to a local authority tip.

A spokesman for the Environment Agency said: "There is an obvious risk of such fly-tipping attracting vermin as well as adverse visual impact. The Agency will not hesitate to take appropriate steps against such action."

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECHO  
CHELTENHAM  
7 October 1996  
C. 26,400**

● The introduction of a landfill tax on waste disposal, which came into effect on October 1, raises the likelihood of fly-tipping. Residents are urged to be on the lookout for any such incidents as an extension to Neighbourhood Watch and to report them to Mr Beddoes or Mr Seed of the borough council's environmental services department on 01684 295010 ext 2543, or ring the Environmental Agency's hotline on 0800 807060.

## Waste not, want not....

BUSINESSES are being warned to be on their guard against fly-tippers touting for work — because it could cost them dear.

Concerns have been growing that a new landfill tax, brought in on October 1, could lead to a rise in the illegal dumping of waste similar to an incident in Nottingham.

But the Environment Agency, which has the power to prosecute fly-tippers, aims to come down hard on law breakers.

As part of the clampdown, it is warning shops and firms to check to ensure people offering to take waste away are registered as carriers.

The tough line follows an incident in Nottingham when a shopkeeper, informally approached by a lorry driver, accepted his offer to remove refurbishment waste for a small payment.

### Prosecution

But the driver was later seen fly-tipping the waste and was reported to the authorities, which are considering prosecution.

Now the shopkeeper is facing a three-figure bill to have the materials properly disposed of.

The agency's area waste regulation manager, Graeme Warren, said: "The shopkeeper in this instance did not exercise his duty of care and as a result was caught out, but fully accepts that he still has a responsibility in a situation like this and is co-operating fully."

Mr Warren added: "The lesson is clear — make sure that people taking waste away are registered carriers licensed to do such work and that the waste is taken to suitably authorised facilities."

The agency believes that more than £10m a year of taxpayers' money is used in cleaning up fly-tipped material.

It has a free 24-hour emergency hotline to report fly-tippers: 0800 807060.

Administered by Customs and Excise, the landfill tax is levied at £2 per tonne of inert waste (such as soil, concrete and uncontaminated glass) and £7 per tonne on all other waste, including organic material.

# Public urged to combat waterways litter blight

by Laraine Hemingway

**THE public was today urged to do its bit to boost Leicester's waterways as beauty spots continue to be blighted by litter and rubbish.**

City officials say beauty spots are suffering from an on-going problem of dumped shopping trolleys, drinks cans, plastic bags and litter.

Recently a car was even discovered in the River Soar.

Today, the chairman of environment and development at Leicester City Council, Councillor Ted Cassidy, appealed to the public to think carefully even about dropping a sweet wrapper near the river or canal.

## Substantial barriers

The message comes as Leicester City Council looks to the future of our river and canal side and its potential as a major draw for tourists, developers and locals alike.

Litter and pollution could be substantial barriers to overcome.

The Leicester Mercury has received reports of two prominent waterway sites littered with all manner of debris — one at the weir in Abbey Park, the other near the old pumping station in Abbey Meadows.

Councillor Cassidy said: "The city council works very closely with the waterways authorities to try to keep our waterways clean. Projects also include the Green



**PROBLEM:** Rubbish at the weir, near Abbey Pumping Station

Life boat which involves volunteers in tidying up these areas."

Liz Flood, riverside project development officer at the city council, said: "People must realise that even a crisp packet or sweet wrapper thrown away near the waterside can contribute to litter problems on the river and canal.

"Everybody is responsible. It's a case of everyone being careful and considerate with litter if they want to preserve the beauty and wildlife of these areas."

Recent finds include a large ladder and a car dumped in the River Soar. Hum-drum rubbish like cans are another problem.

And a duck was found in agony with a discarded fishing hook lodged in its wing. A spokesman for the Environment Agency said the clearing of rubbish from waterways was down to the adjoining landowners. But any urgent pollution or obstruction problems could be reported to a special hotline on 0800 807060. Water is said to be quite low at the moment due to lack of rainfall, so litter may be

# Free hotline to fight the fly-tippers

A NEW hotline has been set up to clamp down on fly-tipping.

People can now report vehicles they see illegally dumping waste which has been a problem on the Pyewipe Industrial Estate in Grimby.

The free phonenumber, run by the Environment Agency, will be available 24 hours a day on 0800 807060.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicle make, registration and a description of the waste deposited," said agency spokesman Donald Thomas.

"We intend to come down hard

By  
RICHARD BURGESS

on fly-tippers, but to get evidence for successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales with local authorities spending more than £10-million cleaning up the waste.

Fly-tippers can face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years' imprisonment if successfully prosecuted.

But a new landfill tax aimed at encouraging waste producers to seek alternatives to landfilling

could lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We welcome the tax but are certainly aware it could lead to more tipping," added Mr Thomas.

Some of the warning signs for fly-tipping are:

- Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles.

- Heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen.

- Trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property.

- Drivers keeping a lookout while unloading.

But the Environment Agency has warned the public against approaching anyone they suspect of fly-tipping.

YORKSHIRE POST  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 4 1996

## Increase in dumping opposed

CONSERVATIONISTS are opposing plans by RJB Mining to double the rate at which waste is tipped on what will eventually become Britain's biggest coal slag heap.

The company wants to increase the amount of waste it is allowed to dump on the tip at Gascoigne Wood, near Selby, from an average of

1.5m tonnes to 3m tonnes each year. RJB Mining says it needs to dump extra waste because of geological problems in the Selby coalfield which have increased the amount of waste being mined along with the coal.

RJB Mining spokesman Stuart Oliver said: "We estimate there is about 10 years life in the Selby coalfield so,

even at the faster rate, Gascoigne Wood should be able to take all of the waste.

"The alternative is to take the extra waste elsewhere by road or rail so we believe that this is the most environmentally friendly and cost-effective option."

The application is due to be considered by county planners next month.

# New fears over waste disposal

**ROGUE rubbish dumpers are being targeted in a new crackdown on illegal fly-tipping.**

The move coincides with the introduction of the Government's new Landfill Tax.

From now, every tonne of waste sent to landfill sites is being taxed at £7.

The Government hopes the tax will encourage more re-cycling initiatives but it has also brought fears of an explosion in illegal waste dumping.

**By Angus Young**

**NEWS REPORTER**

Now a special 24-hour telephone hotline for information about fly-tippers is being launched to help combat the problem.

The Environment Agency's regional waste manager, Offord Slater, said: "The Agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to continue to come down

hard on fly-tippers but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

In the most serious cases, the courts can impose an unlimited fine and a two-year prison sentence.

Mr Slater said: "One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to fly-tipping.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both vehicle and the waste deposited, and then call us."

As well as prosecuting the vehicle owner, the Agency can also seize the vehicle itself.

Both the Agency and local councils have the power to remove dumped toxic waste where it presents a threat to health or the environment.

Mr Slater said people who did see suspicious incidents should watch from a safe distance and never approach fly-tippers.

 The Fly-Tipping Hotline number is 0800 807060.



Wednesday, October 2, 1996  
Telegraph & Argus

## Tip-offs appeal on illegal dumping

Bradford residents are being urged to help crack down on illegal dumping of waste by ringing a new emergency hotline.

The freephone line has been introduced by the Environment Agency to try and stop this environmental hazard.

An estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped every year on public land and local authorities can spend up to £10 million cleaning and disposing of it properly.

Now so-called fly-tippers could face

finer of thousands of pounds and up to two years in prison if they are caught.

Bradford Waste Regulation Officer Louise Milwain, said that this was a general problem in the area.

She said: "Illegal dumping causes all kinds of problems and is a public nuisance.

"We want to see a lot less of this and are urging people to be more responsible with their waste."

She added: "We are urging the people of Bradford to phone the

hotline immediately if they see anything suspicious.

"People should try and get down details of vehicles and registration numbers but should not approach the tippers."

Fly-tipping causes inconvenience for local communities and toxic waste can threaten the environment and affect human health.

To report any information the free, 24-hour emergency hotline number is 0800 807060.

## Hotline launched to catch fly-tippers

THE Environment Agency will become the latest Government department to ask the public to help snoop on their neighbours when it unveils its shop-a-tipper hotline tomorrow.

Officials are worried the new Landfill Tax, which comes into force on Tuesday, will prompt a massive increase in the numbers of tax-dodging fly-tippers across West Yorkshire that it has set up an emergency snoopline to help Environment Agency officers crackdown on rubbish dumpers.

The tax will see between an extra £2 and £7 per tonne levied on waste taken to official landfill sites and was introduced by the Government to create extra revenue and encourage recycling.

But the Environment Agency charged with monitoring the effects of illegal dumping fears an upsurge in fly-tipping.

Last year Leeds spent £87,384 and Bradford budgeted for £250,000 cleaning up fly-tips and the new tax could see bills soar.

The Agency said it would vigorously pursue fly-tippers through the courts with punishments ranging from heavy fines to two years in prison.

The hotline number launched tomorrow is 0800-807060.

Huddersfield Daily Examiner, Wednesday, October 2, 1996.

## Crackdown on tipping

CLEAN-UP bosses begin a crackdown on illegal dumping with the launch of a phone hotline in Huddersfield next month.

Kirklees Council pledged that all incidents reported on its 24-hour service would be followed up immediately.

Officials will reveal the number to dial nearer the launch date on November 1.

Labour council leaders have pledged to step up the war on fly-tipping.

They spoke out as fears grew that dumping will increase after the introduction of the new landfill tax.

The environment agency has unveiled its own free, 24-hour emergency hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

YORKSHIRE POST  
TUESDAY OCTOBER 8 1996

# Go green and save vital cash, council urges householders

Jillian Ward

A CAMPAIGN to persuade householders to turn "green" by recycling waste could save council tax payers in Rotherham £100,000 a year.

The council is preparing to launch a publicity drive encouraging more people to be environmentally aware in the face of a massive increase in the cost of burying waste at landfill sites.

This month the Government imposed a landfill tax on local authorities which

must now pay double to use tip facilities. In Rotherham the cost of burying waste is set to rise from £100,000 to £200,000 a year.

Council officials say it is vital that more is done to make the public aware of the soaring costs and the implications of having to spend precious funds on waste disposal instead of education and housing.

Rotherham Council cleaning and laboratory unit manager Terry Maloney said: "At present we only recycle about two per cent of

our waste. This compares with the record of other authorities, where even the very best only manage to recycle about five per cent.

"This has to be set against the target set by the Government, which has suggested we recycle 25 per cent of waste by the year 2000.

"The introduction of the landfill tax is a definite incentive for local authorities to try and achieve that level.

"Recycling waste is not a cheap option when compared with burying it in a hole in the ground.

"However, the new tax has brought landfill into line with the more expensive alternatives. We now need to get the message across to the public."

Paper accounts for 20 per cent of the council's waste and it is now preparing to set up a kerbside collection of waste paper in November.

Rotherham is considering joining forces with neighbouring authorities to pay for a £20,000 radio promotion to highlight the campaign.

# Crackdown on waste tippers

PEOPLE in Hartlepool are being urged to support a crackdown on the criminal activities of illegal waste dumpers in a bid to protect the environment.

Members of the public are being urged to report law-breakers by calling the Environment Agency's free 24-hour emergency hotline on 0800 807060.

The Environment Agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers who, if found guilty, can face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years in prison.

Each year, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales. It costs local authorities over £10 million to clean up and dispose of the waste properly.

Recent fly-tipping incidents in the region have included the dumping of 1,500 drums containing various toxic chemicals in Consett.

The Environment Agency's regional waste manager Offord Slater said: "We

## Public urged to report lawbreakers on 24-hour emergency hotline

intend to continue to come down hard on fly-tippers but to get the evidence to take out successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public.

"One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to fly-tipping.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicle make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the

waste deposited, then call the Agency."

Some of the tell-tale signs of fly-tippers in operation are said to be waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles, heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen, trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property and drivers "keeping a look out" while unloading.

The Agency says people should only watch an incident from a safe distance and never approach the fly-tippers.

The Journal/Thursday, October 3, 1996

## Plea to catch illegal dumpers

ENVIRONMENTAL watchdogs are asking the public for help in a crackdown on illegal dumping of waste.

Concern is growing that tipping will increase after the introduction of the £7-per-tonne landfill tax this week.

A recent example was the dumping of 1,500 drums containing toxic chemicals near the River Derwent at Consett in County Durham.

Each year in England and Wales, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally tipped on public land, costing councils more than £10m in clean-up and disposal costs.

Now the Environment Agency has

set up a 24-hour hotline (0800 80 70 60) so that people can report illegal tipping.

"Fly-tipping causes significant inconvenience for local communities, creates considerable removal costs and, where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health," said agency regional waste manager Offord Slater.

"We support the landfill tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling but are conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to continue to come down hard on fly-tippers but to get the

evidence to take successful prosecutions, we need the help of the public."

Fly-tipping warning signs are:

- Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles.
- Heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen.
- Trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property.
- Drivers keeping a lookout while unloading.

The maximum fine at magistrates court for fly-tipping is £20,000 or six months' jail.

At Crown Court, there are unlimited fines and two-year sentences.

# Tipping tax set to cost us millions

A NEW tax designed to reduce the amount of waste thrown into rubbish dumps could land South Yorkshire taxpayers with a multi-million-pound tax bill.

Landfill Tax, introduced by the Government on Tuesday to encourage recycling and ease the burden on dwindling landfill sites, could also generate a tax bonanza.

Anyone tipping waste now has to pay a levy of £7 a tonne, working out at an extra £30 per lorryload.

Sheffield City Council has estimated it will have to pay around

£1.8million in Landfill Tax, with council taxpayers having to foot the bill.

Officials also fear that traders will take their rubbish to civic amenity sites to avoid the landfill charges, leaving the site operators to pay the tax.

Meanwhile, the Environment Agency shares concerns that the new charges will lead to an increase in fly-tipping blighting the countryside.

Again, local authorities will then have to pay the cost of collecting and tipping the rubbish.

Already, councils across the country spend over £10million a year tackling the flytipping blight.

Halifax p3

Evening Courier, Saturday, October 5, 1996

## Company fined £4,500

A COMPANY was fined by Calderdale magistrates for breaching waste disposal regulations.

Hofland Deltaflex Ltd, of Hunsworth Lane, Cleckheaton, pleaded guilty to allowing the disposal of waste in breach of a site's waste management licence, failing to ensure a transfer note for waste was completed correctly and failing to pre-notify the Environment Agency of the disposal of special waste contrary to Special Waste Regulations. It was fined £4,500 and ordered to pay £4,673 costs.

Environment Agency solicitor Mr Alan Petherbridge told magistrates agency officers found 17 sacks of waste on a routine visit to Park Spring Quarry, Halifax.

Samples showed that 11 of them contained Toluene, a hydro-carbon industrial solvent, which the site is not authorised to receive, and the remaining ones contained a mix of asbestos fibres which had not been deposited in the correct area of the site. The officers recognised the wastes were produced by Hofland/Deltaflex.

Mr Chris Darbyshire, for the company, said it had adopted a system which would prevent a repeat of the incident.

## Firm fined over dumping law abuse

A Cleckheaton company which produces sealing materials and laminates has been fined for failing to ensure proper waste disposal.

Hofland Deltaflex Ltd, of Hunsworth Lane, Cleckheaton, was fined £4,500 and ordered to pay almost £4,700 costs by Halifax magistrates in an Environment Agency case.

The court was told by the Agency's solicitor, Alan Petheridge, that waste regulation officers on a routine visit to Park Spring Quarry in Halifax had found 17 sacks of waste material deposited at the site.

Samples taken from the sacks showed that 11 of them contained Toluene, a waste product which the site is not authorised to receive. The remaining sacks contained asbestos fibres which had not been deposited in the correct area of the site.

In the company's defence, managing director Chris Darbyshire said Hofland Deltaflex Ltd had now adopted a system which would prevent a recurrence of the incident.

The company pleaded guilty to three charges: allowing the disposal of waste in breach of a site's waste management licence; failing to ensure a transfer note for the waste was completed correctly; and failing to pre-notify the Agency of the disposal of special waste.

Halifax P3  
Evening Courier, Saturday, October 5, 1996

## WASTE PLAN FIGHT

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to protect the Fland area from becoming a regional dustbin will meet with tipping chiefs on Monday.

Officials from West Yorkshire Waste Management will visit the Hollins Hey landfill site at Blackley before deciding whether to seek planning permission to extend work there.

They face fierce opposition from the Fland Environmental Action Group, which was formed to protect the area from increased tipping and problems ranging from an increase in traffic to litter.

Group spokesman Mr Derek Mann said pressure had forced waste management chiefs to delay a decision until after a site visit, and

they would be asked to hold a public meeting to gauge the widespread opposition.

The plans were unsuitable for the windswept Hollins Hey site as more tipping wagons would mean unacceptable amounts of litter blowing across the area.

Mr Neville Readyhough, aged 74, of Blackley Road, said he was lobbying objectors to meet at the site entrance at 2.15 pm.

West Yorkshire Waste Management committee chairman Coun David Atkinson said the organisation had a duty to provide waste disposal sites and while proposals would increase work at the site they would not extend its lifespan past the 2006 agreement.

NEWS

# Fury over 'illegal' dump near homes

By Lauren Flanagan

THORNHILL residents have lashed out at an 'illegal' dump behind their homes — and have demanded action from environmental officers.

They want the culprits prosecuted for turning open land behind Thornhill Park Avenue into a health hazard and an eyesore.

Mrs Sheila Burdekin, of Thornhill Park Avenue, said she was fed up to the back teeth with landowners Acorn Developments, who had been tipping on the site since they bought it 18 months ago.

Despite repeated attempts by the Reporter to trace a spokesman from Acorn Developments, nobody was available for comment.

"The rubbish has encouraged rats and mice, which is a worry when there are children living nearby," said Sheila.

She said they also burnt the rubbish which left a cloud of thick, black smoke outside their homes.

### IT'S IMPOSSIBLE

"You can't open any windows or doors and it's impossible to hang out any washing. It's a health hazard," she said.

When Sheila asked a worker what he was dumping he refused to tell her.

"He swore and told me it was nothing to do with me.

"He came back with another load and nearly turned the lorry over into my garden."

Sheila said the building contractors also cleaned Yorkshire stone on the site, making dust which got into their houses.

Annie Galloway, a campaigns officer at the Environment Agency, said: "It's illegal to dump rubbish — it should be disposed of by recycling or taken to a land-fill site where it can be dealt with properly.

"The owner needs a licence to give assurances that any rubbish dumped on the site isn't harmful."

### PERMISSION

Mr Robert Crossland, an environmental protection manager at Kirklees Council, said the owner needed planning permission to dump waste on the land.

"We will be liaising with council departments, who will move the rubbish."

The Environment Agency would like anyone who sees tipping on the site to take down the registration number with a date and time and a full description of the driver and contact freephone 0800 807060.

"We will take the matter to court if we can get enough evidence, but we would ask that nobody puts themselves in any danger," said Mrs Galloway.



Sheila Burdekin with the pile of rubbish dumped in front of her house. (281006)

**KIRKLEES:** *New telephone hotline will also give advice on safe disposal*

# Shop the fly-tippers, residents urged

Residents in Kirklees are being urged to report illegal fly-tippers on a new telephone hotline being launched next week.

The Kirklees Council number — Huddersfield (01484) 223156 — will also give information about the council's "Bin The Pin" scheme, started earlier this year to give advice about safe disposal of used syringes.

Environmental waste services

manager Steve Noble said: "Fly-tipping is a problem across Kirklees. The sooner incidents are reported, the sooner we can remove the rubbish and have a better chance of identifying and prosecuting culprits."

"There is absolutely no reason whatsoever for people to dump rubbish illegally."

In almost all cases the items dumped are ones which the council

would collect and dispose of free of charge for householders.

"People do not need to dump beds, furniture, fridges or carpets. We offer a free service."

"Similarly, up to six bin liners of garden rubbish can be collected each week, again free of charge. I would remind people the maximum fine for fly-tipping is £2,500."

He said the Bin The Pin scheme had

particularly helped to reduce the number of discarded needles thrown into litter bins.

Six bins are provided, including at the back of St John's car park in Cleckheaton, Batley Health Centre and Dewsbury's public toilets.

Mr Noble said: "The scheme is still in its early months but is showing encouraging results. All six bins are being used by people for disposing of used needles."

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER 1996 p.6

## Taxpayers are urged to snitch on the fly-tippers

A CAMPAIGN against fly-tippers is being launched in Kirklees — and taxpayers are being urged to snitch on them.

A telephone hotline has been set up for anyone who witnesses tipping or finds evidence of it.

Speedy information could help environmental health officers in Kirklees to track down offenders and start court action which could result in fines as high as £2,500 being levied.

Waste manager Steve Noble said fly-tipping was a problem in Kirklees but there was no reason at all for it.

He added: "In almost every case the material dumped is that which the council would collect and dispose of free of charge for householders."

"People do not need to dump beds, furniture, fridges or carpets."

"We offer a free service and that includes picking up to six bin liners full of garden rubbish each week."

Mr Noble said he hoped that setting up the hotline — a recorded phone service on 01484 223156 — would help environmental health officers to win the battle.

He added: "The sooner incidents are reported the sooner we can remove the rubbish and have a better chance of identifying and prosecuting the culprits."

● The same number is also being used to provide advice and information about the safe disposal of hypodermic needles. The "Bin The Pin" scheme has already seen a reduction in the number of carelessly discarded needles. Special bins are provided at Batley Health Centre, Dewsbury Long-causeway public toilets, St John's car park in Cleckheaton and in Huddersfield.

Tuesday, October 29, 1996  
Telegraph & Argus

p. 3

## Beck wildlife devastated by dumped slurry

Illegally dumped slurry has destroyed the ecosystem of Cottingley Beck.

A tanker-full of stone cutting slurry was dumped in woodland just off Cottingley Moor Road, on Saturday.

The waste seeped underground into the water course which runs straight into the beck, near Stoney Lee School.

It has left the bed coated in slurry and devastated wildlife living in the beck.

Any firm or individual found guilty of illegally dumping poisonous, noxious or polluting matter can face a fine up to £20,000.

The waste was spotted at 2pm on Saturday by a Cottingley resident, who contacted the Environment Agency.

Officials spent the weekend battling to prevent more of the slurry seeping into the beck and causing further damage.

Anyone with any information about the rogue dumpers is asked to contact Mr Stewart, in strictest confidence, at the Environment Agency on Leeds (0113) 2440191.



■ MUCK In: Fred Willingham, principle waste regulation officer with the Environment Agency, looks for evidence on a fly-tipping blackspot at Bowesfield Lane, Stockton

■ LAW-breakers now face a showdown with investigators.

# Dumpers galore

By IAIN LAING, Environment Reporter

FLY-TIPPING wave could hit Teesside as new waste laws backfire.

The rising cost of legal dumping with the new landfill tax is likely to push more businesses to break the law. Illegal dumping brings danger as well as mess for Teessiders when toxic substances like asbestos are chucked into the countryside or areas where children play.

### Bid to discourage

The landfill tax aims to discourage wasteful industries and rake back the cost of dealing with trash.

But many businesses face huge bills from the tax of £2 a tonne for inert or safe waste and £7 a tonne for organic

## Waste laws set to tip balance on fly-tippers

waste. A medium-sized waste haulier with 20 tipping lorries could face paying up to £19,000 a day, warns a Teesside expert. "No matter how bad the fly-tipping situation is now, after the new tax it will be ten times worse," said Frank Cooke, Teesside hauliers' consultant.

But law-breaking tippers face a showdown with a team of hardline investigators. The Environment Agency's Teesside hit squad use surveillance, tip-offs and a formidable armoury of legal powers to

crack the problem. Fred Willingham, who heads the four-man team, knows there will be a problem.

"It will be much more tempting to avoid the extra cost by fly-tipping," he said.

Teesside is already a blackspot, with thousands fly-tipping every year at around 50 sites.

There are two causes - householders ignorant of free council collections and businesses who refuse to pay to clean up after them.

But tip-offs from the public are vital to the operation. A good tip can scoop a £100 reward - posters offering the cash are going up at known fly-tip sites.

Officers hope close-circuit television may also be used when funds can be found.

If the vehicle owner denies tipping, a magistrates' order to tell who was in charge of it can be issued, backed by a £5,000 fine if they refuse.

### Limitless fine

The person in charge can face two-years jail or, a limitless fine for illegal dumping.

And whoever paid them to dump can also be fined.

"We are getting around 20 prosecuted a year," said Mr Willingham.

Call the free 24-hour fly-tipping emergency hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

## Hotline to help crack down on illegal dumping

POLLUTION watchdogs are calling on the public's help to crack down on illegal dumping in the Scarborough area.

The Environment Agency has set up a special emergency phonenumber for people to report so-called "fly-tippers".

And they warn that jumpers of illegal waste could face up to years in jail and unlimited fines.

Offord Slater, regional waste manager for the Yorkshire area, said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence for successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicles make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the agency."

He said that the public should watch from a safe distance and not approach fly-tippers.

The freephone hotline number is (0800) 807060.

FRONT PAGE

- 3 OCT 1996



# Fly-tipping crackdown

A CLAMPDOWN on illegal fly-tipping in Sussex has been started by the Environment Agency, as the Government's new landfill tax came into force this week.

Some landowners and councils have said they fear the tax will lead to a big increase in rubbish being dumped in the countryside.

The authority is appealing to the public to phone an emergency hotline, 0800 80 70 60, with information about illegal tipping. It plans to work with local authorities, who clear the waste in most cases, and the police.

Sussex area waste manager Mr Dave Watson said the agency supported the new tax as a means of encouraging business to reduce the amount of waste it produced, and to find more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with it, such as re-using or recycling it.

By Peter Homer

Anyone who saw a possible fly-tipping incident should note down the vehicle make and registration, and a description of both the vehicle and the waste being deposited, and then call the agency.

Warning signs for fly-tipping included: waste carriers operating at night, heavy vehicles in areas where they were not normally seen, trucks going on to waste ground or deserted property, someone keeping lookout while waste was tipped, and uncovered loads on open trucks.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions we need the help of the public," said Mr Watson.

"Unfortunately there are a small

minority of companies who will not hesitate to dispose of waste illegally to save money. If they can avoid landfill tax as well, these unscrupulous individuals will make even more money at a cost to the environment and the public purse.

"All companies who carry waste, which includes jobbing builders, garden and house clearance firms, and skip and lorry operators need to register with the agency."

He added: "Reputable companies will willingly show they are registered and explain where the waste is going to be disposed of. Beware of anyone who offers big discounts - the waste could end up in a lay-by."

The new tax will be collected by Customs and Excise and charged at a rate of £2 a tonne for inert waste, such as soil and bricks, and £7 a tonne for other waste.

Evening Argus

Brighton  
PR Planner No. 67B-100  
Daily - 62,700

# Blitz launched on illegal fly-tippers

**BUSINESSES** illegally dumping waste in Sussex face a crackdown by the Environment Agency.

The new Landfill Tax came into force this week and the Agency has warned that it will be on the trail of illegal fly-tippers.

It has set up a dedicated team of staff across Sussex which will be working with local authorities and the police to prosecute people who illegally dispose of waste.

Culprits could face an unlimited fine and up to two years imprisonment.

Dave Watson, area waste manager for Sussex, said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to obtain the evidence to make successful prosecutions we need the help of the public.

"Unfortunately, there is a small minority of

businesses which will not hesitate to dispose of their waste illegally to save money.

"If they can avoid the landfill tax as well, these unscrupulous individuals will make even more money at a cost to the environment and the public purse."

He said that all firms which carry waste such as jobbing builders, garden and house clearance firms as well as skip and lorry operators need to register with the Agency.

Mr Watson said: "Reputable companies will willingly show they are registered and explain where the waste is going to be disposed of.

"Beware of anyone who offers big discounts - the waste could end up in a lay-by."

He said anyone in doubt whether a waste carrier is registered should contact the Sussex Waste Regulation Team on 01903 228744.

# Be fly and shop rubbish tippers

HAMPSHIRE and Isle of Wight residents are being asked to dish the dirt on fly-tippers as the Government launches a crack down on illegal dumping.

The Environment Agency has set up a hotline to coincide with today's introduction of the Landfill Tax to combat a feared upsurge in unofficial dumping.

Area waste manager Peter Kelly, said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions, we

need the help of the public."

People have been asked to watch for tell-tale signs such as waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles, trucks in unusual locations and someone keeping a lookout while another unloads.

Each year around 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped.

The free 24-hour emergency hotline can be reached on 0800 807060.

Petersfield Post  
PR Planner No. 72B-1383.180  
Weekly

## Fly-tippers face new crackdown

A new crackdown on fly-tippers in East Hampshire was this week launched as part of a national campaign.

And members of the public are being urged to play their part by reporting incidents of illegal dumping in the countryside.

They are asked to make a note of the number of any vehicles they see in suspicious places, and to contact the Environment Agency via a special hotline number, 0800 807060.

Peter Kelly, the agency's area waste manager for Hampshire, said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence for successful prosecutions we need the help of the public.

"If members of the public see a possible fly-tipping incident they should note down the vehicle make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste being deposited - then call the Environment Agency."

ROMEIKE & CURTICE

The Press Clipping Bureau

Tel: 0800 289543

The Southern Daily Echo  
PR Planner No. 67B-1050  
Daily - 60,100

OCT 1986

- 1 OCT 1986

### Britain



PEOPLE are being asked from today to report anyone they spot dumping waste illegally. The Environment Agency has set up a hotline — 0800 807060 — for the public to call if they see fly-tipping taking place.

**The News**

Portsmouth  
PR Planner No. 67B-800  
Daily - 78,400

## Fly-tipping fight stepped up as new tax levied

■ Witnesses can call a hotline number to aid prosecutions.

The Environment Agency has announced plans to crack down on people who tip rubbish illegally and ruin the countryside for others.

A dedicated team will target illegal fly-tippers and the agency has pledged to prosecute people who dispose of waste anywhere other than at a designated tip.

Anyone found guilty faces an unlimited fine and up to two years in prison.

The move comes as a new landfill tax was yesterday introduced by the government.

This aims to make sure that the cost of landfill properly reflects the impact it has on the environment, and to encourage companies to try to recycle more from the rubbish before it is buried in the ground.

Last week, *The News* launched a campaign against plans for a new tip at Horndean after fears that poisons from the landfill site could contaminate water supplies.

Peter Kelly, the Environment Agency's area manager for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, said a 24-hour hotline had been set up for the public to call if they see illegal tipping.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions we need help from the public."

The hotline number is 0800 807060.

# Fly-tippers warned: we are on your trail

FLY-TIPPERS who dump rubbish beside the road in Kent have been warned that the Environment Agency is on their case.

As the Landfill Tax came into force this week the Agency announced it has a team of dedicated staff across the county who will be prosecuting people who illegally dispose of rubbish.

A spokesman said that the agency would be working with local authorities and the police to crackdown on illegal tipping in Kent, and he called on the public to report offenders on the agency's free 24 hour emergency hotline 0800 807060.

He added that the agency was supporting the new Landfill Tax as a means of encouraging businesses to

reduce the amount of waste they produce and to find more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with it.

The spokesman said: "Some landowners and local authorities have expressed concern that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

The agency will do everything in its power to ensure these concerns are not realised."

Anyone found guilty of fly-tipping could face unlimited fines and up to two years imprisonment, he added.

"If members of the public see a possible fly-tipping incident they should note down the vehicle make, registration and description of both the vehicle and the waste being deposited, then call us."



Hampshire Chronicle  
PR Planner No. 72B-1370.150  
Weekly

# Fly-tipping? Tip us off, urge watchdogs

The Environment Agency is warning that it will be on the trail of illegal fly-tippers as the new Landfill Tax comes into force this week.

The agency has a team of staff across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight who can prosecute people who illegally dispose of waste.

It will be working with local authorities, who clear the waste in most cases, and the police to crack down on

illegal tipping. The agency is also calling on the public to help in the fight by reporting fly-tipping on its free 24-hour emergency hotline, 0800 80 70 60.

The agency says people should be suspicious of waste carriers operating at night, trucks going onto waste ground or deserted property, unmarked vehicles and uncovered loads on open trucks.

Peter Kelly, the area waste manager for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, said: "We intend to come down hard on

fly-tippers but, to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions, we need the help of the public.

"The illegal disposal of waste is viewed very seriously by the environment agency because of the potential pollution risk involved. The problem of fly-tipping is very widespread, it damages our environment and causes a serious cost and nuisance to councils, landowners and local communities. We welcome a tax which gives busi-

nesses an incentive to reduce waste and encourage businesses to find more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with it."

Last year alone, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste was illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spent more than £10m cleaning it up.

Anyone found guilty of fly-tipping could face unlimited fines and up to two years' imprisonment.

# Crackdown on fly-tipping

**FLY-TIPPERS beware — the Environment Agency is on your trail and ready to prosecute with anyone found guilty facing up to two years imprisonment.**

In the wake of the new Landfill Tax which came into force this week the agency will be working with local authorities and the police to crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste.

The tax has been introduced to encourage businesses to cut the amount of waste they produce and find more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with it, instead of land filling.

But many landowners and local authorities are worried that the new tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

Last year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste was illegally dumped on public land.

## Report By David Collins

The Environment Agency wants the public to report any fly-tipping incident they see.

The public should note down the vehicle make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste being deposited, then call the Environment Agency.

The freephone number to ring is 0800 80 70 60.

Area waste manager for Hampshire Peter Kelly said: "We intend to come down hard on fly tippers."

"But to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions

we need the help of the public.

"The problem of fly-tipping is very widespread, it damages our environment and causes cost and nuisance to councils, landowners and local communities.

But he added: "We welcome a tax which gives businesses an incentive to reduce waste."

The tax, which will be collected by Customs and Excise, will be charged at £2 per tonne for inert waste, such as soil, concrete and bricks, and £7 a tonne other waste.

Basingstoke council launched a bulky waste collection service, believed to be the first in the country, two months ago.

This enables people to have items like beds, wardrobes, cookers and fridges, collected free by the council.

Many of the items are then sorted by PW Recycling in Wade Road into reusable and recyclable materials.

Chairman of the health and housing committee, Coun George Hood, said: "The free service will help to discourage fly-tipping and improve the general environment."

FLY TIPPERS: shop any offenders, urges Environment Agency

# People get tough on illegal waste dumps

30/9/96 BATH CHRONICLE

PEOPLE in Bath are being urged to look out for fly tippers in the area as tough new laws are implemented.

It is illegal to dump waste except in chosen sites but a new Landfill Tax from October 1 may cause unscrupulous operators to use unlicensed or private land.

At the Environment Agency, which has the powers to prosecute fly-tippers, fears that open areas in Bath could become a target.

Ian White, the Environment Agency waste regulation manager said: "The agency supports the new tax, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly tipping."

"We intend to come down hard on flytippers, but to get the evidence for successful prosecution against them we need the help of the public."

By Marius McKee  
Chronicle correspondent

The Agency has a free 24 hour emergency hotline: 0800 807060. It has the power to prosecute flytippers — who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment — and will be monitoring flytipping particularly closely after the introduction of the new tax.

Mr White said: "One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to flytipping. If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call us."

The agency advises the public to watch from

a safe distance and not to approach flytippers. The warning signs are:

- Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles.
- Heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen.
- Trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property.

The Environment Agency and local authorities, such as Bath and North East Somerset Council have the power to remove dangerous and toxic waste where it presents a threat to the environment, however the agency will not remove other waste.

B&NES and the Environment Agency will work closely sharing information and dividing the tasks of dealing with incidents.

## Tip the wink on flytippers

Eve Herald  
1-10-96

THE Environment Agency is calling on people across the South West to help in a crack-down on the illegal dumping of waste.

They want informers to report flytippers on its free 24-hour emergency hotline - 0800 80 70 60.

The agency has the power to take people who tip illegally to court — with maximum punishments leading to transgressors being fined thousands of pounds or facing up to two years imprisonment.

They will be monitoring fly-tipping particularly closely after today's introduction of the new Landfill Tax.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend

over £10 million cleaning it up and disposing of it.

Flytipping causes significant inconvenience for many local communities and creates considerable removal costs for private landowners and can threaten the environment or human health.

Environment Agency waste regulation manager, Ian White, said: "The Agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling."

### Concerns

"However, we are conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in flytipping."

"We intend to come down hard on flytippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

"One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to flytipping."

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the Environment Agency."

DEVON: Move would increase flytipping, say experts

# Landfill tax plan sparks warning

1-10-96

Express & Echo

**A GOVERNMENT tax aimed at reducing the amount of rubbish dumped in landfill sites could increase illegal roadside tipping, according to experts.**

A landfill tax, costing between £2 and £7 per ton of waste, was being unveiled today as part of a Government package to encourage recycling.

However, an increase in flytipping could be the unwanted spin-off.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tons of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales, with local authorities spending over £10 million to clear it up.

Now, in a bid to stem a possible increase in flytipping, the

by NICOLA OLD

Environment Agency is calling on the public across the Westcountry to report information about illegal dumping on its free 24-hour emergency hotline.

Ian White, the agency's waste regulation manager, said: "We intend to come down hard on flytippers but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public.

"One of the keys is to link vehicles to flytipping. If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited and then call us."

The agency urges members of the public to note incidents of illegal dumping, but not to approach the

flytippers. But campaigners from environmental action group Friends of the Earth have called for the landfill tax to be increased to at least £30 per ton.

They claim that hitting people in their pockets is the only way to encourage more recycling and to reach the Government's target of having 25 per cent of waste recycled by the year 2000.

Anna Thomas, waste campaigner, told the Express & Echo: "The Government must increase landfill tax substantially and extend it to cover incineration.

"If it doesn't do these things then we will continue to waste valuable resources by sending them up in smoke or throwing them into holes in the ground."

The Environment Agency's 24-hour flytipping hotline is on 0800 807060.

## Plea to public: help us in crackdown on illegal dumping

Exmouth Journal

3.10.96

THE Environment Agency is calling on the public across the South West to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting information about flytippers on its free 24-hour emergency hotline: 0800 80 70 60.

The Agency has the power to prosecute flytippers - who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment - and has now started monitoring flytipping particularly closely following the introduction of the new Landfill Tax.

Flytipping causes significant inconvenience for many local communities, creates considerable removal costs for some private landowners and, where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health.

The police and the public can also play a vital role by providing information to the Agency and the councils regarding the activities of flytippers.

Western Gazette, 3 October 1996

## News

### Shop the fly-tippers

THE Environment Agency is appealing for tip-offs about people who illegally dump rubbish.

The agency has a new 24-hour free hotline number, 0800 807060, on which to report fly-tipping.

As much as 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales each year and this could increase now the Government's new landfill tax has come into force.

"The agency supports the landfill tax as a means of encouraging waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping," says Ian White, waste regulation manager for the agency.

"If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the Environment Agency."

The agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers, who could face fines of thousands of pounds or up to two years' imprisonment.

# BOSS HAS TO PAY UP £6,000 ON TIPPING

**ILLEGAL tipping at an unlicensed site in Bristol has cost the boss of a skip hire firm £6,000.**

Mark Wilson was convicted at Bristol Crown Court of depositing waste on unlicensed land and of keeping uncontrolled waste without a licence.

He denied the charges, which were brought by the Environment Agency under the 1990 Environmental Protection Act.

By NEIL FRASER

Wilson was fined £1,500 and ordered to pay £1,700 costs.

He was also ordered to pay £2,800 in compensation to the owner of the land for the cost of clearing the waste.

In 1994 oil drums, asbestos sheeting, car engines, scrap metal, brick rubble, gas cylinders and discarded household items were discovered at the Bedminster site of his firm, Arrow Waste Services, in West Street.

There was also evidence that waste had been burned there, the court was told.

## Hazard

The site was later abandoned, but Wilson, aged 32, was traced by the agency.

Agency senior enforcement officer Roger Wilde said: "Tipping waste in this uncontrolled manner creates a potential environmental and health hazard."

The agency's 24-hour hotline for reporting environmental emergencies is 0800 807060.

*St. Ives Times*  
4 10 96  
Crack down on  
fly tippers

FLYTIPPERS who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment will come under close scrutiny from the Environment Agency after the introduction of the new Landfill Tax on October 1.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in Cornwall and England and Wales, and local authorities spend over £10 million cleaning up and disposing of this waste properly. The agency has the power to prosecute flytippers.

Flytipping causes significant inconvenience for many local communities, creates considerable removal costs for some private landowners and, where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health.

Because local authorities also play a leading role in dealing with flytipping, the agency will work closely with them, sharing information and dividing the task of dealing with incidents.

The police and the public can also play a vital role by providing information to the agency and the councils regarding the activities of flytippers.

Environment Agency waste regulation manager, Ian White, said: "The agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in flytipping.

## HELP NEEDED

"We intend to come down hard on flytippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public. One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to flytipping. If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances they should note down the vehicle's make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the Environment Agency.

"The agency can prosecute a vehicle owner where it has evidence to link a vehicle to flytipping incidents, or seize the vehicle to establish who the owner is if false details have been given on the vehicle registration, as is often the case."

Some of the warning signs for flytipping are: waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles; heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen; trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property; drivers 'keeping a lookout' while unloading.

The Environment Agency is now calling on the public across the South West to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting information about flytippers on its free 24 hour emergency hotline (0800 807060).

Although the agency would ask members of the public to watch an incident in progress from a safe distance, it does not advise anyone to approach flytippers.

Both the Environment Agency and the local authorities have the power to remove dumped toxic waste where it presents a threat to the environment or human health, however the agency will not remove other waste.

# Illegal dumping crackdown

THE Environment Agency is calling on the public across the South West to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting information about flytippers on its free 24-hour emergency hotline: 0800 80 70 60.

The agency has the power to prosecute flytippers - who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years' imprisonment - and has now started monitoring flytipping particularly closely following the introduction of the new Landfill Tax.

Flytipping causes significant inconvenience for many local communities, creates considerable removal costs for some private landowners and, where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health.

conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in flytipping. "We intend to come down hard on flytippers, but to get the evidence to make successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public.

"The agency can

The police and the public can also play a vital role by providing information to the agency and the councils regarding the activities of flytippers.

Environment Agency waste regulation manager, Ian White, said: "The agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling, but is

prosecute a vehicle owner where it has evidence to link a vehicle to flytipping incidents, or seize the vehicle to establish who the owner is if false details have been given on the vehicle registration, as is often the case."

## Crackdown on fly-tippers

THE Environment Agency is calling on the public in North Cornwall and West Devon to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste by reporting information about fly-tippers on its free 24-hour emergency hotline — 0800 807060.

The agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers — they face fines of thousands of £s and up to two years in prison — and will be monitoring fly-tipping particularly closely after the introduction of the new Landfill Tax this week.

Each year, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales, and local councils spend more than £10 million cleaning up and disposing of this waste properly.

# Flytipper hotline is launched by agency

ENVIRONMENT watchdogs want people in Wiltshire to help crack down on flytippers who dump illegal waste by shopping them on a 24-hour hotline.

The Environment Agency wants information on when and where rubbish is dumped and hopes the free line will pinpoint areas where it happens regularly and help it to identify the culprits.

A new landfill tax comes into force on October 1 and the agency is concerned it will lead to an increase in flytipping.

It has the power to prosecute fly-tippers — who face a maximum fine of £20,000 and up to two years' imprisonment.

Environment Agency waste regulation manager Ian White said: "The Agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling.

"But it is also conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in flytipping.

"We intend to come down hard on flytippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

After a report of flytipping has been received on the hotline, staff from the Environment Agency will monitor the relevant site and attempt to capture photographic evidence if the offenders return.

By analysing the illegally dumped waste, they can also trace the suppliers — who are not meant to provide material to unlicensed disposal companies or operators.

Warning signs for flytipping are:

- Waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles.
- Heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen.
- Trucks entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property.
- Drivers keeping a lookout while unloading.

The agency said if a member of the public sees flytippers in action, they should not approach them but report them on the hotline as soon as possible instead.

Each year about 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales, and local authorities spend more than £10 million cleaning up this waste and disposing of it properly.

- The free hotline number is 0800 80 70 60

**HOT TIP LINE:** Following the introduction on October 1 of the Landfill Tax, the Environment Agency has opened a 24-hour emergency free hotline on 0800 807060 on which people can report illegal fly-tippers. People are also urged to look out for waste carriers operating at night in unmarked vehicles, heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen, lorries entering or leaving waste ground or abandoned property and drivers "keeping a lookout" while unloading.

ANNA GAZETTE 4/10/96

# Tip off waste hotline

E+E 23 10 96

CORRESPONDENTS J Marriott and J Souch (Monday, October 14) wrote about fly tipping.

One of these letters in particular suggests that the county council does not seem to care about fly tipping.

I write to explain the legal situation, and to make it clear that the county council is indeed concerned, in conjunction with district councils and the Environment Agency.

Waste regulation is now the responsibility of the Environment Agency, and it is they who operate a fly tipping hotline on the number 0800 80 70 60. The Environment Agency has made clear its concern about the potential increase in fly tipping following the imposition of the landfill tax at the beginning of this month, and anyone with information about fly tipping is encouraged to ring the Environment Agency on that number.

Devon County Council provides civic amenity facilities for householders to dispose of bulky household and garden waste, at no charge, and hence there should be no reason for individual householders to indulge in fly tipping.

In general it is not the county council's responsibility to provide facilities for the disposal of trade waste, and therefore traders should make use of the various trade waste disposal facilities available in Devon.

It seems likely that some fly tipping emanates from traders wishing to avoid paying the appropriate disposal charge and landfill tax for their trade waste.

I encourage readers to make use of the fly tipping hotline if they have any information.

IAN HARRISON  
Deputy county  
environment director,  
Devon County Council

## South West in Euro-wide illegal waste crackdown

THE Environment Agency has checked almost 150 waste transporters in the South West as part of a Europe-wide crackdown on the illegal movement of waste.

Fourteen countries took part in the operation and more than 2,000 lorries were checked across the UK.

Since 1992, all waste carriers have to be registered with the Environment Agency unless they are exempt.

Only a couple of vehicles in the South West are being investigated by agency staff after most of the transporters were found to be properly registered.

The agency issues certificates of registration and keeps a database of bona fide waste carriers.

The information is used to monitor the movement of waste in and out of the region.

By now many carriers should have renewed their initial three-year registration.

Express & Echo 26-10-96

Those breaking the rules can be fined up to £5,000, or face a prison sentence of up to two years.

Pandora Rene, the Environment Agency's principal licensing officer, said: "It is a legal requirement to ensure the transportation of waste is kept with responsible operators."

The agency, working with the police, carries out regular roadside checks to ensure compliance with the law.

Mrs Rene said: "Some of the operators who have not yet renewed their registrations may no longer be involved in the carriage of waste. But there are others who are now operating illegally."

"If officers catch them red-handed during roadside checks we will not hesitate to prosecute."

Anyone who is unsure whether they need to be registered should contact the Environment Agency on 0645 333111.

# Rural fly-tippers pose environmental threat

*Business & Environment 26/10/96*  
LANDOWNERS are warning of an environmental time-bomb created by increased fly-tipping in the countryside. High charges at tips, and the introduction of a landfill tax on October 1, have led to an increase in the number piles of rubbish left illegally in the countryside.

Last week the Echo reported how a business man, David Stokes, from Sturminster Marshall, was left with a bill of £216 after 16 tonnes of builders' rubble were dumped at his factory.

Now the west country branch of the Country

Landowners' Association has had a meeting with the Environment Agency about the issue.

Annie Lanigan, the CLA regional secretary, said the amount of fly-tipping was creating an "environmental time-bomb for which there is no obvious solution".

She added: "One of the major worries for landowners is that if the people responsible for dumping rubbish or refuse cannot be found, the person who owns the land becomes responsible for clearing up the mess.

"It is quite inequitable

and we need to work to find a solution."

Paul Millard from the CLA said members were very worried about noxious material being left as well as rubble, old stoves, fridges and carpets.

"Some waste operators have already shown they are unscrupulous and we feel that unless the situation changes it is only a matter of time before there is a serious problem," he said.

The Environment Agency has a 24-hour freephone number, (0800) 807060, for people to report fly-tipping.

## Oil care advice

THE Environment Agency is urging home owners to become pollution busters this winter.

They have produced an Oil Care Code and advise people to check their household heating oil systems. *EXPRESS & ECHO*

Supply pipelines and storage tanks in poor condition can cause oil to escape and drain into nearby rivers.

For free advice on oil storage and the Oil Care Code contact the Environment Agency on 0645 333111. *26-10-96*

HERALD EXPRESS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1996

## Environment watchdog 'tips off' bad boys

WASTE hauliers in South Devon face prosecution if they carry on their business without registration warns nature watchdog the Environment Agency (EA).

A blitz on 150 waste transporters in the South West showed 99 per cent were correctly registered with the EA, but investigators are looking at the documentation of just a couple of operators.

EA licensing officer Pandora Rene said some operators who have not renewed registrations may not be involved in the business any more, but warned: "There are others who are now operating illegally. If officers catch them red handed during roadside checks we will not hesitate to prosecute."

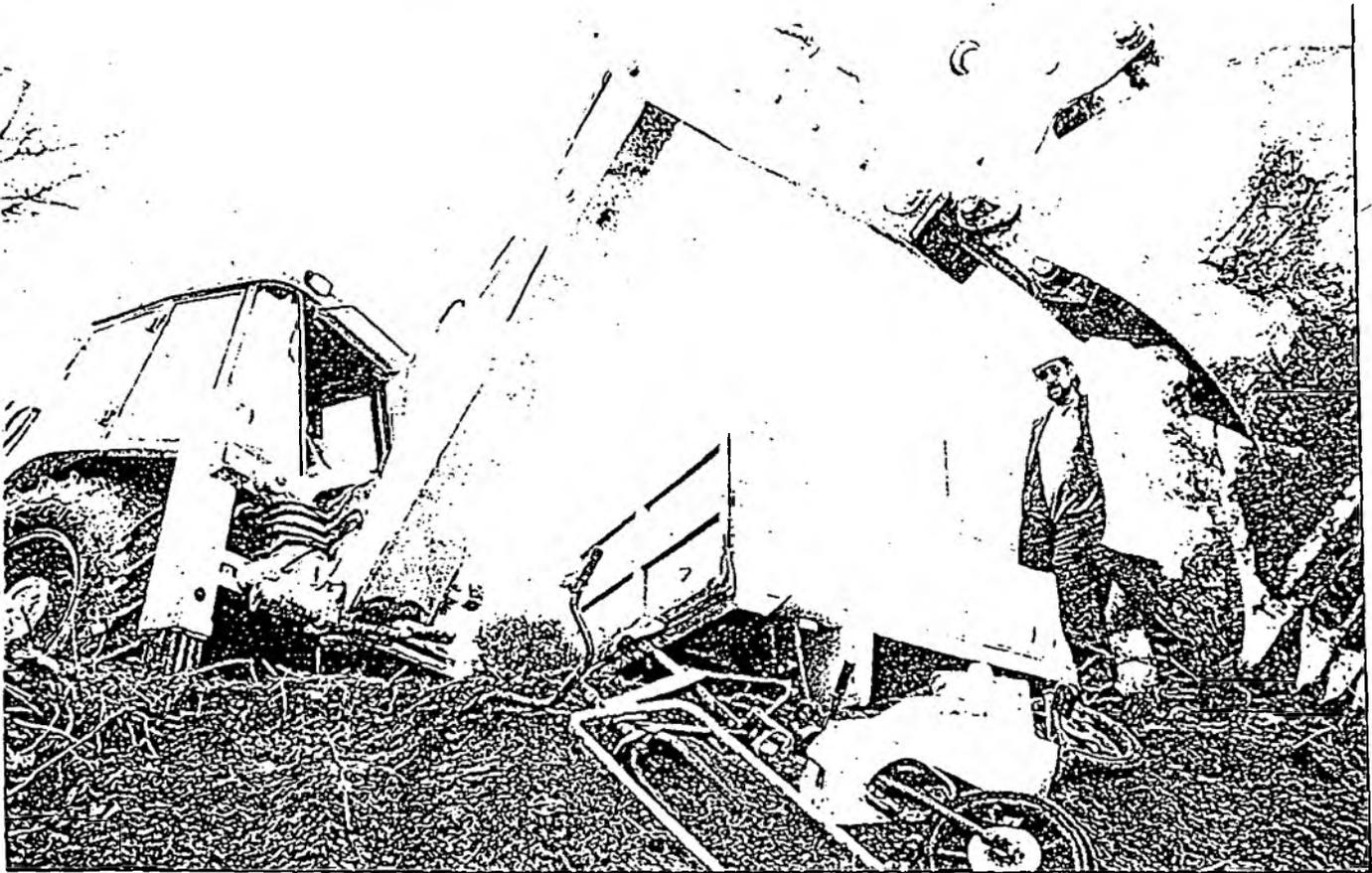
The EA says customers are placed at risk as well for not ensuring their waste is disposed of legally.

There are more than 2,000 carriers in Devon who have to be registered or face a fine of £5,000 or up to two years in jail.

Transporters of construction and demolition waste must be registered even if they produce it themselves.

Registration, which lasts for three years, does not apply to charities or voluntary organisations.

Under special regulations the EA must be pre-notified when waste from acids, medicines, oil, photographic chemicals, solvents and pesticides are moved in England and Wales.



**ACTION MEBN:** Digger driver John Heller and contractor John Douce (right) begin the clean-up of flytipping rubbish at St Kew Quarry yesterday. *Picture: NEIL LINDSAY*

## Fly-tipping rubbish cleared

MORE than 100 tonnes of illegally dumped builders' and household rubbish were cleared from a Cornish quarry yesterday.

The voluntary operation at St Kew Quarry, near Wadebridge, coincided with the introduction of the landfill tax which is expected to result in an increase in flytipping and use of unlicensed refuse sites.

The Environment Agency, which coordinated the quarry tidy up, has pledged to take firm action against companies or people caught illegally dumping waste.

The quarry had become an environmental eyesore, littered with rubble, fridges and other household appliances, scrap metal and garden refuse.

Truro-based companies T H Douce and Sons and Acland Plant Hire provided the workforce, digger and lorries to

load the rubbish and take it to a licensed landfill site and Cornwall County Council's waste disposal authority paid the disposal costs.

St Kew Parish Council will now secure the site and do what it can to prevent further tipping.

Gitty Ankers, Environment Agency waste regulation officer for Cornwall, said: "This is an excellent example of local communities supporting the agency in protecting the environment that they live and work in."

Mrs Ankers pointed out that flytipping, apart from being a nuisance, was a criminal act and offenders risked fines of up to £20,000 or even a prison sentence.

Anyone seeing rubbish being dumped at the quarry or any other illegal site can contact the agency on its free 24-hour emergency hotline - 0800 807060.

**E**IGHT black bin liners bulged ominously. On a warmer day, the smell would have been even more vile.

Kevan Davies wiped the lens of his camera and rapidly exposed a film.

'It's hardly the holiday snaps, is it?' he said, with bleak humour.

Wearing rubber gloves, Davies sifted the evidence.

From the decomposing mess, clues emerged of two suspects.

Letters revealed the name and address of a local farmer, details of his bank and where he traded livestock.

Among the rotting food, travel documents identified a woman who had recently returned from abroad.

Ticket stubs showed she had been to see a West End show.

Litter from her bathroom bin indicated that she wore pink lipstick and was on the Pill.

Personal rubbish can be embarrassingly revealing.



**It's dangerous, it's disgusting – and now it costs even more if you're caught. BRIAN PEDLEY talks to a man in the front line of the fight against flytipping**

As the possible owner of the site, the farmer would be traced.

The lady with the pink lips might also be asked to assist with inquiries.

Exeter-based Davies is proud to call himself an 'environmental policeman'.

As one of a network of waste regulators employed by the Environment Agency,

he wages war on the environmental crime of fly-tipping.

### Sifting

Photographing and sifting rubbish goes with the job. 'I suppose it's quite bizarre when you think about it,' said the 39-year-old.

Against a backdrop of rainswept Devon fields, Davies picked his way through sheets of asbestos roofing, corrugated iron, loft insulation, silage, tyres, and a rusting electric stove.

This and domestic refuse had been crudely layered into a simmering 25-ft high mound.

'It will rot and produce a toxic liquor,' Davies warned.

'You will also get ex-

plosive methane. On top of that, you've got a vermin problem.

'This illegal tip is a real cocktail of disaster.'

Fly-tipping is motivated sometimes by laziness but mostly by money.

Devon Waste Manage-

tons of builders' rubble or animal carcasses, toxic chemicals or medical waste such as syringes and incontinence pads.

In March this year, a tanker drove along a country lane near Torrington shedding hun-

dreds of gallons of raw sewage.

This week, charges for legal tipping rose still

further when the Government's Landfill Tax took effect.

As part of its drive towards alternative forms of disposal, levies of up to £7 will be imposed on every tonne of material.

The Environment Agency expects a further outbreak of fly-tipping.

'Whenever you have an improvement in the regulatory regime, it is going to encourage cowboys,' a spokesman said.

'Devon is a microcosm of what's going on across the country – and we shall be fighting it more and more on a national basis.'

Environmental criminals face fines of to £20,000 or even jail.

'You never know what

## 'Illegal tips are a real cocktail for disaster. You can't help thinking about Aids'

ment charges an average £18 a tonne for the disposal of waste at its major landfill sites.

Rogue operators can clean up to the tune of thousands of pounds by collecting waste and dumping in open country – or on dangerously uncontrolled, unlicensed sites.

In Devon alone, the Environment Agency received 366 complaints in 1995 – almost double the previous year's total.

The increase may be partly due to growing public awareness of the agency's national 24-hour emergency hotline.

But Kevan Davies perceives a real growth in incidents.

It could be hundreds of

you're going to find,' says Kevan Davies.

'Last week 50lbs of rotting meat was dumped in countryside. It was infested with flies and the stench was awful.'

Significant numbers of 'environmental policemen' have actually served in the police force.

The jobs have their similarities.

The agency's inquiries are meticulous, with vehicle numbers noted and traced, and sites mapped and sent to the Land Registry so that owners can be identified.

From offenders, there are the same threats of violence.

Kevan Davies' colleague, former policeman Keith Mullen, recalls a visit to a site in north Devon where dead sheep had been buried.

### Hurled

He said: 'We spoke and the next thing was a 4ft fence post being hurled through my car window.'

Waste regulators are also vaccinated against diseases that range from hepatitis to the rat-borne leptospirosis.

The clothing includes goggles, face masks and suits that protect against chemicals.

'We also wear the syringe-proof rubber gloves, you can't help thinking about the possibility of something like AIDS,' says Davies.

'But, like me, my family don't dwell on it. They believe in the job as much as I do.'

● *If you want to report illegal dumping, ring the Environment Agency's free 24-hour emergency hotline on 0800 80 70 60.*

Extract from:  
MAIDENHEAD ADVERTISER

-Berks-

11 OCT 1996

## Public urged to report all illegal dumping

# AGENCY STARTS FLY-TIP HOTLINE

THE Environment Agency is calling on the public to help in a crack-down on the illegal dumping of waste, by reporting information about fly-tippers on its free, 24-hour emergency hotline 0800 80 70 60.

The agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers - who face fines of thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment - and will be monitoring fly-tipping particularly closely following the introduction of the new Landfill Tax on last week.

### ESTIMATED

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spend over £10 million cleaning up and disposing of this waste properly.

Recent fly-tipping incidents have included the dumping of over 1,000 tonnes of rub-

ble overnight at a site in London.

Fly-tipping causes significant inconvenience for many local communities, creates considerable removal costs for some private landowners and where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health.

Because local authorities also play a leading role in dealing with fly-tipping, the agency will work closely with them, sharing information and dividing the task of dealing with incidents.

The police and the public can also play a vital role, by providing information to the agency and the councils regarding the activities of fly-tippers.

"The agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping," said Mike Fletcher, the Environment Agency's regional waste manager.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take suc-

cessful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public.

He said one of the most important roles the public can play is helping link vehicles to fly-tipping.

### SUSPICIOUS

Mr Fletcher said if people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicles make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the agency.

"The agency can prosecute a vehicle owner where it has evidence to link a vehicle to fly-tipping incidents, or seize the vehicle to establish who the owner is if false details have been given on the vehicle registration, as is often the case," he said.

Although the agency would ask members of the public to watch an incident in progress, from a safe distance, it would advise them against approaching fly-tippers.

10 OCT 1995

# Taxing the refuse tips

6405  
**C**rack open the Perrier and let those eco-hallelujahs ring out for the arrival of the UK's first green tax.

The Government's long-awaited landfill tax was introduced last week to increase the cost of filling up England's green and pleasant land with rubbish dumps.

The new tax will mean an extra

## green times

Colin O'Toole celebrates the arrival of a tax on using landfill refuse sites



cost of £7 per tonne for burying waste which pollutes water supplies or decomposes to release greenhouse gases such as methane. There will also be an extra £2 per tonne levy on inert waste such as builders' rubble that does not release any noxious gases or liquids.

A spokesman for Customs and Excise said the tax was designed to get local authorities and businesses thinking about more effective ways to dispose of their rubbish.

"If you are in a business that produces lots and lots of rubbish and use landfill sites then it is going to have an impact. It will help underpin the recycling market and will also provide an incentive for local authorities to think

about ways they can deal with waste."

Barnet Council plans to join other London boroughs in bettering the Government target of recycling 25 per cent more material by the year 2000.

It will spend £1.5 million on issuing special recycling bins and trials of door to door paper recycling will begin next month. The scheme is due to be expanded by April next year to include glass, cans and plastic bottles.

It is introducing composters and wormeries to reduce the amount of garden refuse, food scraps and other biodegradable waste which it currently transports to landfill sites in Bedfordshire.

Diré warnings have gone out from central government to local authorities such as Barnet not to pass the new tax on to taxpayers.

"Next April employers are going to get a £500m reduction in National Insurance contributions to shift tax burden from jobs to waste because the less expensive we make jobs the easier it is for employers to make new ones or at least keep the ones they have got," said the Customs and Excise spokesman.

Aside from that the principal of

green taxation looks set to continue.

"Certainly this tax has been one of the few taxes which has quite a large number of supporters which is unusual because most people do not like taxes.

"It will create an incentive but I do not think anybody is going to send in the Gestapo to make people use compost. At the end of the day it comes down to individual choice.

"Over the past two years, we have done our best to make sure people are well prepared, but as usual there are people who do not want to hear what you are saying. After about two years people will have a better idea about what effect it is going to have."

Sue Bird of Barnet Friends of the Earth welcomed the measures: "You have got to make it easy for people today to recycle. The pressure is on landfills and on our countryside because it is filling up. What we also need is legislation to make supermarkets take back containers and cardboard boxes and recycle them."

The Environment Agency is eager for information on illegal fly-tipping on its hotline number 0800 807080.

Extract from:  
SURREY ADVERTISER  
-Guildford-

4/10/96

# Plea to help 6405 crackdown on fly-tippers

THE Environment Agency is calling on the public to help in a crackdown on the illegal dumping of waste, by reporting information about fly-tippers on its free, 24-hour Emergency Hotline: 0800 80 70 60.

The agency has the power to prosecute fly-tippers — who face fines of

thousands of pounds and up to two years imprisonment — and will be monitoring fly-tipping particularly closely after the introduction of the Landfill Tax on October 1.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales, and local authorities spend over £10 million cleaning up and disposing of it properly.

Fly-tipping causes significant inconvenience for local communities, creates considerable removal costs for some private landowners and, where toxic waste is dumped, can threaten the environment or human health.

Because local authorities also play a leading role in dealing with fly-tipping, the agency will work closely with them, sharing information and dividing the task of dealing with incidents.

The police and the public can play a vital role by providing information to the agency.

Environment Agency's Regional Waste Manager Mike Fletcher said: "The agency supports the Landfill Tax as a means to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling, but is conscious of concerns that the tax will lead to an increase in fly-tipping.

"We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecution against them we need the help of the public.

"One of the most important roles the public can play is helping us link vehicles to fly-tipping. If people see large amounts of waste being unloaded in suspicious circumstances, they should note down the vehicle make, registration and a description of the vehicle and the waste deposited, then call the agency.

Although the agency asks members of the public to watch an incident in progress from a safe distance, it advises against approaching fly-tippers.

Extract from:  
GRAVESEND LEADER  
-Kent-

11 OCT 1996

# FLY-TIP PHONE HOTLINE

THE Environment Agency is warning that it will be on the trail of illegal fly-tippers, as the new landfill tax came into force on October 1.

The agency has staff across Kent ready to prosecute people who illegally dispose of waste.

The agency works with local authorities — who clear the waste in most cases — and the police to crack down on illegal tipping and is calling on the public to help by reporting fly-tippers on its free, 24-hour emergency hotline, 0800 80 70 60.

The Environment Agency supports the landfill tax as a means of encouraging businesses to reduce the amount of waste they produce and to find more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with it, such as re-using or re-cycling it.

Last year alone, an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste was illegally dumped on public land in England and Wales, and local authorities spent more than £10 million cleaning it up. Anyone found guilty of fly-tipping could face unlimited fines and up to two years' imprisonment.

If a possible fly-tipping incident is noted, jot down the vehicle make, registration and a description of both the vehicle and the waste being deposited, then call the Environment Agency.

Some of the warning signs for fly-tipping are:

- waste carriers operating at night.
- heavy vehicles in areas where they are not normally seen.
- trucks on waste ground or deserted property.
- someone "keeping lookout" while waste is tipped.
- unmarked vehicles.
- uncovered loads on open trucks.

Extract from:  
BEDFORD HERALD  
& POST  
- 3 OCT 1998

# Warning 6485 on fly tipping

Report by DAVID COOK

**A COUNCILLOR has vowed to fight any plans to scrap a rural rubbish collection service - saying it would be a "licence for fly-tipping".**

Mark Smith, Bedford councillor for Woolton, warned there was "constant wavering doubt" about the future of the rural skip scheme as the authority searches for ways to save cash.

The scheme means residents in rural areas can take advantage of a free skip twice a year and get rid of anything from old bikes to furniture.

Last year Bedford introduced a £14.99 charge for the collection of unwanted items like fridges, which Cllr Smith believes should be waived for pensioners.

Cllr Smith, an Independent spokesman on the environment, said: "There's constant wavering doubt about the scheme, but I say prevention is better than cure.

"If the skip service is taken away it will be a licence for fly-tipping and we will see more and more old baths and sofas being dumped in rural areas."

Cllr Smith's comments follow this week's announcement from the Environment Agency that it is



to crack down on illegal dumping.

The campaign, which coincides with the introduction of the new landfill tax, encourages residents to phone a hotline if they see someone dumping rubbish.

The agency, which warns culprits could face up to two years in jail, said an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste is dumped every

year and local authorities spend £10m cleaning up.

Regional waste regulation officer Donald Thomas said: "We intend to come down hard on fly-tippers, but to get the evidence to take successful prosecutions against them we need the help of the public."

South Wales Star 16/10/96

## Levy on landfill

THE Environment Agency in Wales says the introduction of the Landfill Tax is a positive way to encourage waste producers to look at alternatives to land-filling.

The Landfill Tax, which became effective on October 1, will be administered by Customs and Excise.

It will be levied at the the rate of £2 per tonne on inert waste such as oil, concrete and uncontaminated glass and £7 per tonne of all wastes including all organic waste and other waste which will decompose.

Waste management companies will have the opportunity to donate up to 20 per cent of the income from the tax to environmental projects.

Regional waste regulation manager Mr Martin Terry said: "The new tax should prompt waste producers to seriously consider a range of alternative open to them.

"An obvious starting point is to look closely at the amount of waste currently arising from their production processes.

"They should check if any new technology or techniques could be employed to stop such waste being produced in the first place or which could significantly reduce the quantity being produced," he said.

The agency also encourages the re-use of waste products where possible. The metal fabrication industry is a good example because the recycling of offcuts is a well established practice.

South Wales Evening Post, Friday, October 25, 1996 23

### New waste charges spark illegal dumping fears

# Fly-tipping may increase with tax

A NEW waste tax could cause an increase in fly tipping and push up costs for taxpayers in and around Swansea, say councillors.

The Government wants polluters to pay to reduce the amount of rubbish produced and disposed of at dumps.

Swansea Council has to pay a landfill tax for waste going into its Tir John site.

The more potentially damaging to the environment the waste, the more the council has to pay.

The council has to try to recover these costs from private contractors, individuals and its own departments which use the Tir John site.

It has introduced a scale of charges

By GARY SPINKS

for companies or people which use the dump and for those who go to the local authority's baling plant, where material is baled for Tir John.

Highways, technical and property services committee vice-chairman Des Thomas said: "Whilst I hope people will recycle more, this tax could lead to an increase in the amount of fly tipping.

"Some contractors or individuals will look for alternatives for disposing of their waste.

"This authority must be very vigilant in future and the public can also help.

"Every time we are called out to deal with dumped rubbish that is a



TIP FEARS: Fly-tipping may increase with the new waste tax.

cost to the taxpayer and we have to catch the culprits red-handed and prosecute them."

Councillor David Phillips said: "The Government has clearly not taken into account the local authority's position.

"The council has to deal with

more active waste than most other businesses so this pushes up its costs.

"I am not convinced that even if it were free to take waste to Tir John that people would take it there. Recycling facilities have to be in place but this landfill tax could lead to an increase in the local council tax."

# Landfill tax hailed as a positive move

The Environment Agency in Wales has welcomed the introduction of the landfill tax as a "positive way" of encouraging waste producers to look at alternatives to landfilling.

The landfill tax, which became effective at the start of the month, will be administered by Customs and Excise.

It will be levied at the rate of £2 per tonne on inert waste such as soil, concrete and uncontaminated glass and £7 per tonne on all other wastes.

Waste management companies will have the opportunity to donate up to 20 per cent of the income from the tax to environmental projects.

Regional waste regulation manager Martin Terry said: "The new tax should prompt waste producers to seriously consider a range of alternatives open to them.

"An obvious starting point is to look closely at the amount of waste currently arising from their production processes.

"They should check if any new technology or techniques could be employed to stop such waste being produced in the first place or which significantly reduce the quantity of waste being produced."

The Agency also wishes to encourage the recycling of waste products wherever possible, such as papers and plastics.

Even where this is not possible, some waste materials can be a good source of energy, Mr Terry said.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste, including toxic chemicals, is dumped illegally on public land in England and Wales, which local authorities spend more than £10 million disposing of.

The Environment Agency is promising vigilance to tackle a possible side-effect of the tax — an increase in illegal tipping.

WESTBIA TELEADU 9/10/96

## Landfill tax poses cash headache

A new landfill tax has landed Pembrokeshire County Council with a £170,000 bill for the remainder of the financial year.

Director of finance Mark Lewis said: "This is a significant burden which falls upon all local authorities. Although the Government is offering a concession in terms of a slight rebate of 0.2 per cent on employer's national insurance contributions from April next year, this will not offset the full year effect to the authority."

Pembrokeshire County Council

and other local authorities are submitting a combined report to the Welsh Office urging that the new cost is reflected in next year's rate support grant settlement.

The Environment Agency in Wales says the tax, which came into operation on October 1st, is a positive way to encourage waste producers — including local authorities — to look at alternatives to landfilling.

The new rates are:

● £2 per tonne on inert waste such as soil, concrete and uncontaminated glass.

ed glass.

● £7 per tonne for all other wastes, including organic and other waste which will decompose.

Waste management companies will have the chance to donate up to 20 per cent of the income from the tax to environmental projects.

Each year an estimated 150,000 tonnes of waste, including toxic chemicals, is dumped illegally on public land in England and Wales and local authorities spent more than £10 million cleaning up and

disposing of it properly.

Some landowners and local councils are worried that the new landfill tax will increase flytipping. But the Agency says it will play its part in tackling the problem. Both it and the local authorities have the power to prosecute offenders and remove dumped toxic waste.

□ People wishing to report incidents of fly tipping should contact their local authority or the Environment Agency free phone emergency number, 0800 807060.