

KEEP KAUFMAN COUNTY CLEAN

Kaufman County has experienced a sharp increase in population. With this growth comes added pressures on the environment.

For generations, many practices which were acceptable in the past, have now become illegal.

The dumping of trash at un-permitted locations, throwing away old car batteries, and dumping used motor oil behind the garage or along fence lines, are all crimes that carry a fine and even a jail sentence.

Although, these acts have always been harmful to our environment, we now have a better understanding of the extent and duration of these activities impacting our environment. The increasing population and number of people engaging in these types of activities have made it necessary to aggressively investigate and prosecute environmental crimes.

Forney Recycling Center
(972) 551-6604

Kaufman Trash and Recycling Center
(972) 932-2161

Kemp Recycling Center
(903) 498-3191

**Terrell Citizens Convenience Station
& Recycling Center**
(972) 551-6628

REPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

STOP Illegal Dumping



**1-888-335-DUMP
HOTLINE**



**KAUFMAN COUNTY
Environmental Enforcement**

(469) 376-4127

KAUFMAN COUNTY

Environmental Enforcement

**Kaufman County
Environmental Enforcement
101 N. Houston Street
Kaufman, TX 75142
(469) 376-4127**

LITTER and TRASH

The Crime

- Illegal Dumping

The Punishment

- Fine up to \$1,000,000
- Incarceration up to 20 Years
- *Or Both*

Illegally disposed litter, trash, rubbish, garbage, and hazardous waste, all are threats to public health.

People as well as animals can get injured by broken glass, exposed metals, and other dangerous materials. Rats, snakes, mosquitoes, and other pests can live in the garbage and transmit disease to humans and pets. Rotting food attracts flies, which may carry germs that make people sick. Harmful chemicals and other materials that are dumped can contaminate our waters.

Dumping into waterways, like ditches, creeks, streams, and rivers can prevent the proper flow of water and cause flooding and pollution.

Illegal dumping costs money. Tax dollars spent for clean-up cannot be used for other needs.

Illegal dumping is ugly. When someone dumps trash, others follow. Garbage builds up until it is cleaned at

a cost that is passed along to citizens.

USED MOTOR OIL

The Crime

- Violation - Handling Used Motor Oil

The Punishment

- Fine from \$1000 to \$100,000
- Imprisonment up to 15 Years
- *Or Both*

One reason the punishment is so aggressive is that just one quart of used motor oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water.

Most people agree that pouring used motor oil into the local water supply would be a destructive act. Yet, many people will still dump dirty motor oil in a sewer, drain, ditch, and on weeds. However, rain creates runoff from virtually any place used motor oil might be dumped, and contaminated runoff is one of the greatest causes of water pollution today.

Kaufman County provides oil recycling collection stations for citizens to deposit their used motor oil and filters at numerous locations throughout the county. This service is free of charge.

Oil collection stations are located at:

- Precinct 1 Maintenance Barn
- Precinct 2 Maintenance Barn

- Precinct 3 Maintenance Barn
- Precinct 4 Maintenance Barn

LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

The Crime

- Unauthorized Disposal of Lead-Acid Battery

The Punishment

- Fine up to \$4000
- Imprisonment up to 1 Year
- *Or Both*

Lead is a strong poison. Too much lead in your body can damage your brain and nervous system, blood, kidneys, digestive system, and reproductive system.

A lead-acid battery is hazardous waste. Hazardous waste requires special handling and disposal.

LEVELS OF CHARGES

MISDEMEANOR

CLASS C.....	Fine to \$500
CLASS B.....	Fine to \$2000 Jail to 180 Days
CLASS A.....	Fine to \$4000 Jail up to 1 Year

FELONY

STATE JAIL.....	Fine up to \$10,000 180 Days to 2 Years
3RD DEGREE.....	Fine up to \$10,000 2 to 10 Years
2ND DEGREE.....	Fine up to \$10,000 2 to 20 Years

1ST DEGREE.....Fine up to \$10,000

5 to 99 Years or Life

CAPITAL.....Life or Death