

Advertising Flyers:

The placing of advertising leaflets on car windscreens is prohibited and if you are proposing to distribute advertising leaflets in the street, you should first check with the local authority to see if they have introduced any local restrictions, which they are entitled to do.

Presenting your Refuse for Collection:

Taking a few small precautions in the way you present your refuse for collection will help enormously in preventing the creation of litter. Refuse and recyclables should be put out for collection in the time prescribed by your waste contractor only. The longer waste is left out for collection the more likely it is to attract the unwanted attention of dogs, cats and birds.

It is an offence to dispose of your household refuse in street litter bins.

What can you do?

Reporting Offences:

Whilst litter pollution continues to be a huge problem in our towns and countryside, there is much evidence that many people living in our county are no longer willing to tolerate other people's attitude towards litter. The incidence of reports being submitted by members of the public to Mayo County Council, in relation to littering and illegal dumping is increasing daily.

Report incidences of littering and illegal dumping to the Litter Wardens in Mayo County Council.

Litter line answering service 1800 400 256 or by telephoning the Environment Section at 094 9024444.

Take part in one of the many campaigns operating in Mayo to fight the Litter Problem:

- An Taisce National Spring Clean
- Cleaner Community Awards
- Litter League
- Green Schools

Contact the environment section of Mayo County Council, Aras an Chontae, Castlebar for further details of these campaigns
Tel: 094 90 24444

Remember Litter does not go away. Don't ever litter and don't tolerate those who do.



Civic Amenity Centres opening times:

Derrinnumera Civic Amenity Centre:

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm
Saturday: 8:00am - 1:00pm

Rathreen Civic Amenity Centre:

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 4:30pm
(Closed for lunch 1:00-1:30pm)
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays

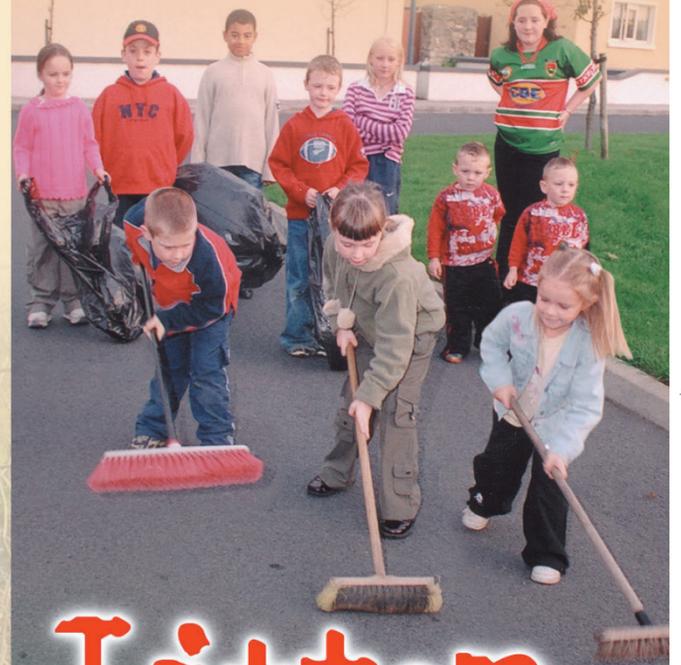
** Please note opening times are subject to change*

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Comhairle Chontae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



Litter & the LAW

It's easy | to make a difference

Know your responsibilities for taking action against litter

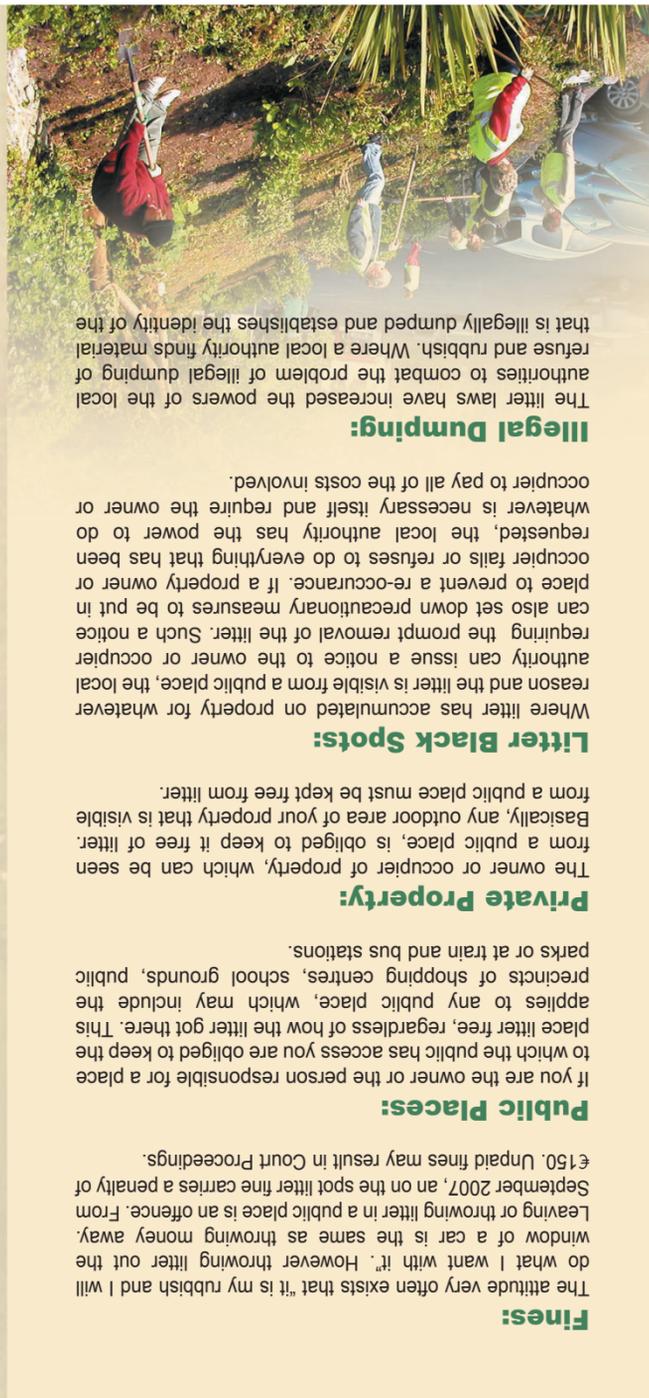


Posters and Signs:
The law forbids the placing of posters / signs on poles or on other structures in public places unless you have written permission of the owner of the pole or other structure in advance of placing the poster / signs.

Dog Fouling:
Dog owners must now remove their pets' waste from public places and dispose of it in a proper manner. This obligation applies to the following places:
- Public roads and footpaths - Areas around shopping centres / sports grounds - Beaches - The immediate areas surrounding another person's house.

Mobile Food Outlets:
Operators of mobile food outlets selling fast food or beverages, or other outlets such as those selling farm produce are obliged, to provide suitable litter bins in the vicinity of their outlets. Also, they must clean up any litter arising from the operation at their outlets within a radius of 100 meters from their outlet.

Major Events:
The promoters or organisers of major events are required to ensure that they have litter control measures in place at the venue and in the surrounding vicinity before, during and after the event. This applies to football matches and other social and sporting events at which large crowds attend. It is possible that this task can be undertaken by the local authority but the promoter must bear the costs involved.



Illegal Dumping:
The litter laws have increased the powers of the local authorities to combat the problem of illegal dumping of refuse and rubbish. Where a local authority finds material that is illegally dumped and establishes the identity of the refuse and rubbish, the local authority has the power to do whatever is necessary itself and require the owner or occupier to pay all of the costs involved.

Litter Black Spots:
Where litter has accumulated on property for whatever reason and the litter is visible from a public place, the local authority can issue a notice to the owner or occupier requiring the prompt removal of the litter. Such a notice can also set down precautionary measures to be put in place to prevent a re-occurrence. If a property owner or occupier fails or refuses to do everything that has been requested, the local authority has the power to do whatever is necessary itself and require the owner or occupier to pay all of the costs involved.

Private Property:
The owner or occupier of property, which can be seen from a public place, is obliged to keep it free of litter. Basically, any outdoor area of your property that is visible from a public place must be kept free from litter.

Public Places:
If you are the owner or the person responsible for a place to which the public has access you are obliged to keep the place litter free, regardless of how the litter got there. This applies to any public place, which may include the precincts of shopping centres, school grounds, public parks or at train and bus stations.

Fines:
The attitude very often exists that "it is my rubbish and I will do what I want with it". However throwing litter out the window of a car is the same as throwing money away. Leaving or throwing litter in a public place is an offence. From September 2007, an on the spot litter fine carries a penalty of €150. Unpaid fines may result in Court Proceedings.

The Litter Pollution Act, 1997 brought in tougher litter laws to combat the problems of litter pollution more effectively. The law has been reinforced through the Waste Management (Amendment) Act 2001 and the Protection of the Environment Act 2003. Below is a guide to your obligations under the Litter Pollution Act.

The Law!

We are blessed with a beautiful county with the most wonderful views you will ever find. Litter remains a problem in this county. Litter does not go away. It is unsightly and it is potentially dangerous for wildlife and human beings. It can also have a serious impact on our tourist industry and it discourages job creation.

The rural and urban areas of our beautiful county have suffered due to the selfishness of individuals who have no respect for their environment, for nature or for their fellow human beings. These pictures are the evidence of the dreadful damage that litter does to Mayo's environment. Sadly, there are so many examples where regions of Mayo have been transformed into dangerous and ugly dumping grounds. All the items found in these illegal dumps could have been disposed of in a safe and proper manner.

Litter has many forms and sources. Litter by definition extends beyond casual pieces of paper or cigarette ends to anything large or small which is, or is likely to become, unsightly. Nappies discarded on beaches, cigarette ends, chewing gum, sweet wrappers, waste dumped at bring banks - sound familiar?

The Litter!