

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME?



Residents Leading Change

Littering, fly-tipping, dog fouling, graffiti, abandoned vehicles, public urination and defecation, spitting – these are all examples of environmental crime affecting all areas of the country.

These types of anti-social behaviour affect us all. They drag down the quality of life we should all expect to be able to enjoy. This quality is reduced every time your child steps in dog poo, you walk past litter, you drive

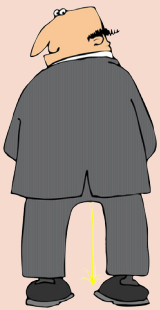
past a pile of fly-tipped rubbish, you have to avert your gaze because someone is peeing in the street or when the person walking in front of you spits or flicks a lighted cigarette end to the ground.

Boston is no different from all other parts of the country for having to suffer these types of poor behaviour.

Boston Borough Council has a dedicated team committed to education, enforcement and endlessly cleaning up when



URINATING, DEFECATING, SPITTING



Yuk! Yes, some people do urinate in a public place – in the street, in a car park, in a shop doorway, even in the grounds of a religious building. Unbelievably, some even defecate in public. In Boston borough anything such as this, including spit, is classed as litter so, under the Environmental Protection Act, it's punishable by a £75 fine.



One man's art is another's graffiti – but if it's in the wrong place it's all graffiti. Graffiti and fly-posting are both covered by the Anti-Social Behaviour Act and attract £75 fines. The council will remove graffiti and fly-posting from public buildings and offers a removal service for privately-owned property.

ABANDONED VEHICLES

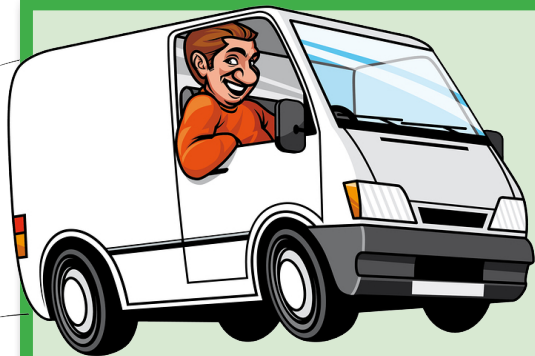
Few things look quite as sinister and intimidating as a parked vehicle which never moves. Vehicles which have been abandoned are unsightly, can encourage crime and can be dangerous. Report one to the council if you see one. We will arrange for it to be taken away and, sometimes, crushed. If we can find out who the owner is he or she could face a £200 fine.



MAN IN A VAN

You employed a man with a van to take your rubbish away and he dumped it in that quiet spot out of town. Nothing to do with you, right? Wrong. Your rubbish, your responsibility. You could be liable for a fine, even imprisonment – see fly-tipping overleaf.

- Always check that your man with a van has a waste carrier's licence, so you can be sure he is properly authorised. You can check here at <http://bit.ly/JHr16i>



YOU ARE THE MAN IN A VAN

Do you have your waste carrier's licence? Are you properly authorised? If you are carrying waste and are unable to produce your licence it will cost you £300.

UNTIDY LAND

The council has powers to deal with privately-owned land which has been allowed to become a scruffy eyesore, especially to the detriment of neighbours. A "litter clearing notice" can be served on the owner of land requiring it to be cleared of litter or rubbish. Failure to comply can be punishable with a £100 fine.

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FLY-TIPPING

We've all seen piles of rubbish dumped, mainly in a quiet spot out of town – old mattresses, unwanted furniture, carpets, TVs, fridges, freezers, sometimes worn-out tyres and even builders' rubble. It's all illegal and the punishment can be fierce – up to a £50,000 fine, a year in prison and they'll have to pay the clean-up costs.

Fly-tipping across England is costing taxpayers almost £50 million a year to clean up. That is money that could be spent on other sources.



DOG FOULING

When a dog's got to go... but it is up to you, as a responsible owner, to clean up after your pet. Leave it behind and it's a £50 fine. Not only is dog mess unpleasant, it is a health hazard. When children, or indeed anyone, comes into contact with dog faeces they risk contracting an illness called toxocariasis which can cause blindness. Free poo bags are



LITTERING

As described overleaf, urine and faeces are classed as litter. So is anything else a person deliberately discards in the street – food containers, sweet wrappers, plastic bags, drinks containers, cigarette packets, cigarette ends and chewing gum. If you don't bin it properly it can be another £75 fine. Free, reuseable cigarette disposal pouches are available from the council offices, West Street, Boston.

The only
cure for
LITTER
is you



Telephone: 01205 314200
Email: operation@boston.gov.uk

Do our environmental crime wordsearch

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Graffiti
Urinating
Defecating
Spitting
Abandoned vehicles
Scruffy land
Man in the van
Littering
Flytipping
Dog fouling