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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Council's plans to tackle illegal rubbish dumping

Huon Valley Council, together with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), is actively working to tackle the ongoing issue of illegal rubbish dumping in the Huon Valley.

Illegal rubbish dumping is the act of depositing any waste onto land that does not have a licence to accept waste.

The most common forms of rubbish found at dump sites include household waste, tyres, appliances, asbestos sheeting and building waste.

This illegal rubbish is often dumped in environmentally sensitive areas like forestry roads, near waterways, and in natural bush close to roadside pull over areas.

"More and more frequently, household rubbish is being dumped in Council bins, especially at recreation grounds, said Huon Valley Mayor Sally Doyle.

"This dumping overloads the bins before the scheduled pickup, causing litter to escape into the environment. It also denies use of the bins to people using our recreational areas."

Several resources and strategies are currently being deployed to make the identification and prosecution of offenders of rubbish dumping more likely. These include:

- Trailrubbish dumping;
- EPA and Council Officers with dedicated time and procedures for investigating rubbish dumps;
- EPA Litter and Rubbish Reporting System for community members to report seeing someone littering or to report the location of dumped rubbish;
- Zero tolerance approach to individuals identified as dumping rubbish or depositing household rubbish in Council bins. Offenders will automatically be issued with an infringement notice under the *Litter Act 2007*.

"In the past, it has been difficult to identify and prosecute individuals involved with illegal rubbish dumping. However, with these new resources and strategies in place, we can work together to minimise the affect rubbish dumping has on our environment and our Valley," said Mayor Doyle.



Huon Valley Council offers three Waste Transfer Stations, including Southbridge (located in Huonville), Cygnet and Dover. Southbridge also has a thriving Reuse Shop, where pre-loved items are donated and sold on.

If you have any questions regarding disposing rubbish at one of Council's Waste Transfer Stations, Council's website has a detailed list of acceptable waste ([Waste Transfer Stations - Huon Valley Council Huon Valley Council](#)).

When reporting rubbish dumping offenders and dump locations, notifications are sent to the EPA and the relevant landholder, such as Council, Crown Property Services or Sustainable Timbers Tasmania. Where possible, the landholder makes every effort to clean up the rubbish to prevent it from further escaping into the environment.

Links to EPA Reporting services: [Report Littering | EPA Tasmania](#) and [Report Rubbish - Create \(epa.tas.gov.au\)](#)

**For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300**