



# Enforcement **Alert**

*Making You Aware of Anticipated Enforcement Activities*

Compliance and Enforcement

Issued: November 7, 2012

# 2012-20

## **Illegal Dumping of Solid Waste**

### **Who is affected by this initiative?**

Solid waste coordinators, county and municipal staff or officials, law enforcement, and entities involved with solid waste transportation and disposal within New Jersey.

### **What is occurring?**

As the recovery from Hurricane Sandy progresses, it has become necessary to ensure that illegal dumping of solid waste does not occur – and will not be tolerated - since it will further set back our State's recovery efforts.

### **What is NJDEP doing?**

1. Providing help to those following the law and acting in the public's interest in this crisis. To address the significant volume of solid waste generated by Hurricane Sandy, the Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is working with local officials to ensure that adequate temporary staging areas are available in addition to permitted disposal facilities.
2. To address the problem of illegal dumping of solid waste, including storm debris, NJDEP has notified the New Jersey State Police, local offices of emergency management, and local officials of the laws available to take immediate and strong enforcement actions against illegal dumpers. The Solid Waste Management Act authorizes NJDEP, and local boards of health and county health departments to initiate civil actions for violations of the Act.

### **Illegal dumping and other harmful unauthorized activity will result in swift and severe action up to and including:**

- a. A mandatory fine of **\$2,500.00** for first offense, increasing to **\$10,000** for subsequent offenses
- b. Mandatory **loss of driver's license** for six months to one year
- c. **Forfeiture of vehicles** used or intended for use in the unlawful transportation or disposal of solid waste
- d. **Mandatory community service** up to 90 days.

# COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

## What should I do?

1. Be aware of useful information that explains, enables and supports legal disposal. Visit <http://www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/debris.htm> where you will find information relating to:
  - a. Debris management guidance for municipalities
  - b. Status and hours of operation for disposal facilities
  - c. Temporary debris management areas
  - d. Temporary vehicle registrations
  - e. Suspension of county waste flow restrictions

For questions on this information call (609) 292-9880

2. If you see illegal dumping occurring, contact your local police department or call NJDEPs emergency hotline number at **1-877-WARNDEP** (1-877--927-6337).

If you are able to take a picture or video with your phone or camera, please email it to: [solidwasteemergencies@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:solidwasteemergencies@dep.state.nj.us) with the location, date and time, and vehicle make, model and license plate if available.

## Who can I contact with questions?

### **During Business Hours:**

Duty Officer  
New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Solid Waste Enforcement  
P.O. Box 420  
Mail Code 09-01  
9 Ewing Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420  
(609) 292-6305

**Non-Business Hours:** 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337)

## Where can I get more information?

Hurricane Sandy information page: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/>  
Hurricane Sandy solid waste info: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/debris.htm>  
General NJDEP contact information: <http://www.nj.gov/cgi-bin/dep/contactdep.pl>  
To comment on this advisory: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/survey.html>

Please note this advisory is intended to be a summary explanation of a department initiative. It does not include all potentially applicable requirements. If you have any questions related to compliance with this initiative, please contact the contact numbers listed above.