



The choice.



Is yours.

Fly-tipping. Making headlines every day.

**It's nothing short of  
environmental vandalism**

**PLAGUE OF THE  
FLY-TIPPERS**

**Treating the UK  
as a rubbish dump**

With your support the Borough Council can help make headlines of this kind a thing of the past. Please do whatever you can to help us stop those who are treating our countryside like a giant rubbish dump.

**Reporting 'fly-tipping'**

This is a crime that costs Tonbridge and Malling tax payers thousands of pounds a year in clearance costs. The Borough Council spends over £1.2 million keeping the borough clean and tidy. With our budgets for important services to residents under great pressure this is something that we have to resolve.

You can help by reporting, in complete confidence, any suspicions of 'dumping' by using our 'Fly-tipping Action Line.' We are working with the police to follow up on reports.

**Free download**

Visit [www.tmbc.gov.uk/DisposalRecord](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/DisposalRecord) to download a Disposal Record Form to make it easy to gather and record all of the information to help protect yourself from prosecution.

**Email:** [waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:waste.services@tmbc.gov.uk)

**Fly-tipping Action Line:** 01732 876147

[www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste)



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Tonbridge and Malling



**IT'S A CRIME**

# Dumping waste is a crime and could mean a £5,000 fine!

The dumping (fly-tipping) of waste in the countryside, on roads and other land is a serious problem and on the increase in the UK. We all have a responsibility for managing our waste, or face real problems in our communities.

## It's unacceptably damaging

Not only does 'fly-tipping' spoil our environment, it can also create inconvenience for your journeys, risks for children playing, encourage rats and disease. It is very expensive to clear up and will add to your council tax bills.

## The 'unwitting' problem

A big part of the problem is unscrupulous or uncaring 'contractors' who you might, unwittingly, hire to undertake work on your home or to remove rubbish and unwanted goods like refrigerators, mattresses, broken furniture and even building rubble.



**You don't have to be the one actually doing the dumping – if a contractor is doing it on your behalf, or even without your knowledge, you are still liable for prosecution.**



## Which is which?

### Your rubbish is your responsibility

For a start you should choose your contractor carefully to ensure that you hire someone who is registered and will legally and responsibly take your rubbish and goods to a proper disposal point. This may cost you more, but the price for not doing this will be much higher – for the contractor AND you!

Secondly, you need to keep a record of the material or items, who is taking the material, where it's being taken and that the 'site' will accept it. Visit [www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste) for a handy downloadable form.

In fact, you have a 'Duty of Care' by law and there could be severe penalties for you with fines of up to £5,000 in a Magistrates' Court.

**N.B. Remember this requirement will also apply to any building works or home improvements**

### Check for licensed contractors

- For rubbish removal, check with the Environment Agency, 08708 506 506 [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/publicregisters](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/publicregisters) that the contractor has a Waste Carriers Licence
- Try to judge that their price is realistic and they are likely to be paying waste disposal costs
- Provide a description of the waste giving details of any unusual characteristics
- Ask for a receipt from the person who took waste from you
- Find out where your waste is going and check that they can accept it
- Note your contractor's name, address and vehicle details, just in case you find yourself in court
- Keep all paperwork for at least 2 years
- Ensure you are given a 'waste transfer note' by the contractor carrying out removal of waste

## 3. Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council bulky waste collection service

You can book a home collection for old appliances, and larger items, by going to our website [www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste) and completing the request for a bulky waste collection. There is a charge for this, but it is efficient, cost effective and legal.

## 2. House clearance specialists

You don't have to be clearing your whole house, these companies will take one or more items if they can see a value.

## 1. Local charities

If the item(s) still have some value, like a piece of furniture or a working, yet unwanted, TV then why not talk to your local charities to see if they have people wanting them?

## 4. Borough Council Saturday Freighter Service

This useful service is your mobile 'tip'. It parks near you most Saturdays, so you just need to look up where it's going to be and when, and take your rubbish along – check our website for details: [www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste)

## 5. KCC Household Waste and Recycling Centres

These are facilities where you can take many larger items like electrical goods, appliances, old mattresses, timber, hardcore, batteries and old furniture. You can also get on-site help to lift/carry large and heavy items

These easy to reach centres are located in Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks.

Check before you go: [www.kent.gov.uk/waste](http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste) or phone 03000 417373



**5 other legal ways to dispose of your waste**