



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

PEGGY M. HATCH
SECRETARY

For Immediate Release
Sept. 13, 2012

Contact: Rodney Mallett
Phone: 225-219-3964

DEQ encourages citizens to report illegal dumping during Hurricane Isaac recovery

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality encourages residents in Hurricane Isaac affected areas to report illegal dumping to local law enforcement and DEQ's Criminal Investigation Division. Illegal dumping is a serious crime and violators could be sentenced to up to one year in jail and a twenty-five thousand dollar fine.

Household or office furniture or appliances (computers, laptops, televisions, stereos, etc.), automotive parts, including but not limited to tires and engines, trailers, boats and boating accessories, tools and equipment, building materials, roofing shingles, roofing nails, and bags or boxes of household or office garbage should be properly disposed of in a landfill. The burning of these items is also illegal.

Household chemicals can become hazardous in storm-damaged homes, so care should be taken to ensure those materials are disposed of in a proper manner. Please be aware that it is illegal to dump waste such as hazardous chemicals, paint, motor oil, cleaning products, solvents and pesticides down drains or into ditches. These items, along with compact fluorescent light bulbs, electronics and batteries, must be disposed of in an appropriate manner at a household hazardous material recycling event or at an authorized site that accepts those specific types of materials. Please contact your respective parish for acceptable recycling and debris disposal locations.

Residential and commercial waste should be placed out for curbside recycling or trash pickup, properly separating all waste using the below categories:

- Vegetative yard waste (tree limbs, leaves, etc.)
- Household chemicals, paint, herbicides, pesticides, caustic and flammable liquids (keep these items separated and in their original containers)
- White goods (refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves and similar appliances) Freezers and refrigerators set out for recycling should have the food removed.
- Electronic appliances (computers, laptops, televisions, stereos, etc.)
- All other solid, nonhazardous wastes/debris (building materials, furniture, etc.)

When placing debris curbside for pickup, please ensure that containers are clearly marked and upright before placing them out for disposal.

Citizens are encouraged to inform local law enforcement and DEQ of any illegal dumping activity, by calling the DEQ Single Point of Contact line at (225) 219-3640 or Toll Free 1-888-763-5424. An illegal dumping activity may also be reported online at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/apps/forms/irf/forms/>.

For more information on re-entry, please go to the DEQ Web site and access the flood re-entry fact sheet at: www.deq.louisiana.gov.