

## **North Tipperary County Council introduces CCTV cameras at illegal dumping sites**

In 2011 a zero tolerance approach will continue to be taken to illegal dumping. With the purchase of CCTV cameras, CCTV surveillance will come into operation at various illegal dumping sites including bring banks and Recycling Centres throughout North Tipperary.

Illegal dumping is unsightly, degrading, costly to clean up and can be harmful to children, pets and wildlife. The new mobile cameras will rotate around North Tipperary to ensure that those people who dump rubbish illegally can be prosecuted. Leaving or throwing litter in a public place is an offence that can be subject to an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a maximum fine of €3,000 if you are convicted of a litter offence in the District Court.

Bring banks are provided for members of the public to recycle glass bottles and aluminium cans. North Tipperary recorded the highest percentage increase in glass tonnage collected comparing Jan-Sept 2009 to Jan-Sept 2010. This constituted a percentage increase of 13%. However, at a minority of bring bank sites, members of the public cannot access the bring banks due to dumping.

It should be noted that it is an offence under the Litter Pollution Act to leave any waste materials including bags of household waste, bottles, plastics, cardboard boxes etc. in the vicinity of bring bank sites. If a bring bank is full then bottles or cans should be brought to another location or return later when the banks have been emptied.

Speaking on this initiative, Joe MacGrath, County Manager, North Tipperary County Council, said, "Illegal dumping is unnecessary and causes a lot of concern for our countryside and all the wildlife that inhabits it. We are also disappointed that some bring sites are being misused in this way as they are important facilities for communities. North Tipperary County Council is trying to encourage people to recycle as much of their waste as possible and reduce the amount going to landfill. We have also had people leaving their recyclables in plastic bags because they are too lazy to empty them into the banks". He added "CCTV has been installed at sites throughout North Tipperary in order to deter illegal dumping and where it does occur North Tipperary County Council will be enforcing the litter legislation and offenders will be prosecuted. Remember, people found littering are liable to an immediate fine of €150."

North Tipperary County Council is appealing to public to be vigilant when it comes to litter and protection of the environment and to contact the Litter hotline on 1850 250 350 to report incidences of illegal dumping.

Spreagann Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh an pobal le Laghdú, le hAthúsáid agus le hAthchúrsáil an oiread agus is féidir. Oibrímid Uimhir Shaorghlao i gcomhair Bruscair 1800 250 350 le cur ar chumas an phobail aon dumpáil neamhdhleathach nó bhruscar a chur in iúl don Chomhairle Contae.

ENDS

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