

Litter facts

(from national and state studies)

- The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) spends more than \$4 million per year to pick up litter.
- It costs more than \$63 per mile for state highway departments to remove litter.
- In efforts to keep Oklahoma clean, a toll-free anti-litter hotline is in service. To report litterers, Oklahomans can call 1 -888-5-LITTER.
- There are more than 1,000 Adopt-A-Highway volunteer groups. They pick up litter on the right-of-way four times each year.
- Each year, ODOT sponsors “TRASH-OFF,” when volunteers, including Adopt-A-Highway groups, pick up litter statewide on one Saturday in April.
- Oklahoma has more than 2,400 illegal dumps.
- County commissioners estimate the one-time cleanup cost for illegal dumps is \$4 million.
- Sixty percent of litter is deliberate.
- People litter when they feel no sense of ownership.
- A primary source of litter on state highways is the result of uncovered loads in pickups, flatbeds and dump trucks.
- Roughly 55 percent of all littering occurs along rural and urban highways.
- Trash creates a bad impression for our state and it presents a health hazard for motorists and pedestrians.
- Roadside trash not only hampers tourism for the state, but also adversely impacts economic growth in the state.
- Illegal dumps present a poor state image to visitors and potential investors, as well as residents.
- Pedestrians, primarily younger than 25, account for greater than 76 percent of all littering in parks, roadside parks or recreational areas.