

Texas Illegal Dumping Resource Center
www.tidrc.org

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PROF-700 Illegal Dumping Core Course

CONTENT

This is a PROFESSIONAL level (6 hour) class appropriate for law enforcement officers, elected officials, and other local government staff needing detailed information about controlling illegal dumping in unincorporated areas of Texas counties.

This is the core course for illegal dumping enforcement inside cities and in unincorporated areas. It addresses the two fundamental policy issues facing Texas cities and counties concerning illegal dumping. These are among the first decisions local governments will have to take if they wish to be effective and efficient:

- **ARE YOU USING ALL THE TOOLS?** Is your city or county using all available tools to respond to illegal dumping? Officers, prosecutors, and elected officials do not routinely study specialized anti-pollution criminal laws as part of their standard training. If you're in a city, code enforcement alone is simply insufficient.
- **WHO DOES THE ABATEMENT?** Who is going to pay for cleaning new (and old) dump sites, many of which have become public health nuisances? Will existing dumps be (a) ignored, (b) cleaned through the use of taxpayer funds, or (c) cleaned by dumpers themselves? This class will argue that no city or county can possibly afford for long to use taxpayer funds to clean-up behind dumpers. Moreover, the taxpayers won't stand for it either as soon as they learn that dumpers can be used as abatement workers.

CURRICULUM

Section 1 - Why Illegal Dumping Enforcement Matters

- S1 L1: Texas is a LOT of small places
- S1 L2: But most of them don't do illegal dumping enforcement ...yet
- S1 L3: Texans Create and Dispose of a Lot of Waste
- S1 L4: RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL Dumping Are Different
- S1 L5: Illegal Dumping Hurts the Whole Community
- S1 L6: Is Your City or County Willing to Stop Illegal Dumping?
- S1 L7: Correcting Two Major Misconceptions Immediately
- PROF-700 Quiz Sec. 1 – 10 Questions

Section 2 – Codes and Laws Available for Local Governments

- S2 L1 Four Categories of Anti-Pollution Laws Are Available
- S2 L2 Codes and Specific Criminal Laws Cities and Counties Can Use
- S2 L3 Reading Time!

Chapter 2: Overview of Local Enforcement in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) starting on page 15.

Section 3 – The Three Abatement Choices Available to Local Governments

S3 L1: Do Nothing

S3 L2: Use Taxpayer Funds and City or County Abatement Crews

S3 L3: Use Illegal Dumpers to Abate

Section 4 - Using Municipal Codes to Stop Illegal Dumping

S4 L1: Municipal Codes Don't Work Everywhere

S4 L2: What Cities Do When Codes Don't Work

S4 L3 Reading Time!

Chapter 5: Using Municipal Codes to Fight Dumping in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) starting on page 91.

Section 5 - Using THSC Chapter 365 (Illegal Dumping)

S5 L1: THSC 365 Snapshot

S5 L2: Reading Time!

Chapter 4: Primary Illegal Dumping Enforcement in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) starting on page 54.

S5 L3: Don't Overlook These Things About THSC Chapter 365

S5 L4: Special Caution: Dumping on your own land is illegal!

Section 6 - Using THSC Chapter 341 (Public Health Nuisances)

S6 L1: THSC 341 Snapshot

S6 L2: Reading Time!

Chapter 6: Public HEALTH Nuisance Enforcement in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) starting on page 119.

S6 L3: Remember about THSC Chapter 341 ...

Section 7- Using THSC Chapter 343 (Public Nuisance Laws for Rural Areas)

S7 L1: THSC 343 Snapshot

S7 L2: Reading Time!

Chapter 7: Rural Public Nuisance Enforcement in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) starting on page 149.

S7 L3: I'm not a fan of this law because ...

Section 8 - Using TWC 7.145 and 7.147 (Water Pollution)

S8 L1: TWC Secs. 7.145 and 7.147 Snapshot

S8 L2: Reading Time!

Chapter 8: Water Pollution in the .pdf [2026 Illegal Dumping Enforcement Book](#) fully discusses this topic and is worth reading. It starts on page 168.

Section 9 – Common Policy Issues

S 9 L1: “We don’t do code!”

S9 L2: Cities often over-rely on Codes

S9 L3: Lessons from the kitchen: Meat grinder operations

S9 L4: Many Local Programs are “One Person Deep”

S9 L5: For Success, Focus on These Things

Section 10 – Conclusion and Wrap-Up

Q PROF-700 Quiz Sec. 2 – 20 Questions