

PROF-700 Illegal Dumping Core Course

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.

This is the core course for illegal dumping enforcement inside cities and in unincorporated areas.

TWO FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

This class 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:

- **WHO DOES THE ABATEMENT?**

Who is going to pay for cleaning new (and old) dump sites, many of which have become public health nuisances? If you don't remove the current dumping, it simply attracts more dumping. **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.

- **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.

What Will You Learn?

- The two primary policy questions about illegal dumping for cities and counties;
- The four types of criminal laws available to local government to use to stop pollution;
- The reasons why illegal dumping is a serious crime in Texas;
- Why cities cannot rely on municipal codes alone to control dumping;

- Details of the two most important laws: THSC Chapters 365 and 341;
 - The three abatement choices facing cities and counties;
 - How to use illegal dumpers to abate new and old dumping in your city or county;
 - Other policy issues that have arisen in cities and counties
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[Assemble Your Materials and Instructions](#)

GET READY BY DOWNLOADING THESE FREE REFERENCE .pdf FILES

THINGS YOU'LL USE IN THIS CLASS

[Primary Illegal Dumping Laws](#)

[Summary of Violations and Penalties in THSC 365](#)

IF YOU'RE WORKING THESE CASES IN THE FIELD

[Field Enforcement Charts \(Most officers consider these very useful\)](#)

Why Illegal Dumping Enforcement Matters

Cities and counties that work to stop illegal dumping will provide a healthier, more beautiful, and more prosperous setting for their residents. No elected official was ever defeated because the voters thought their surroundings were too clean and healthy!

[S1 L1 The future of Texas](#)

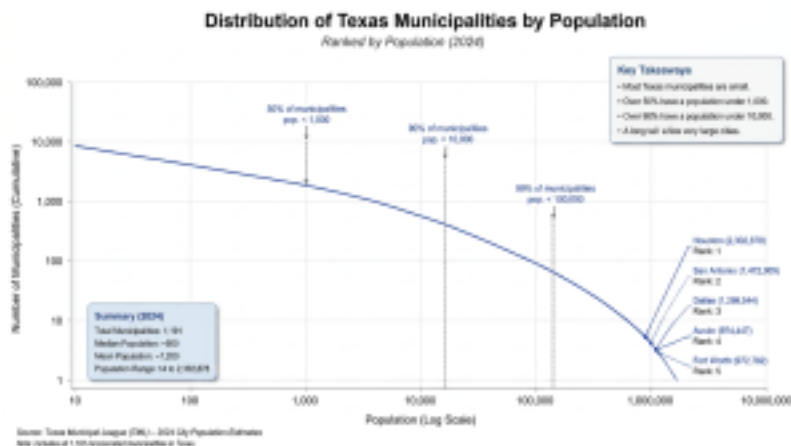
THE FUTURE OF TEXAS EXPLAINED IN FOUR IMAGES



Lots of people will be coming to Texas

S1 L2: Texas is a LOT of small places

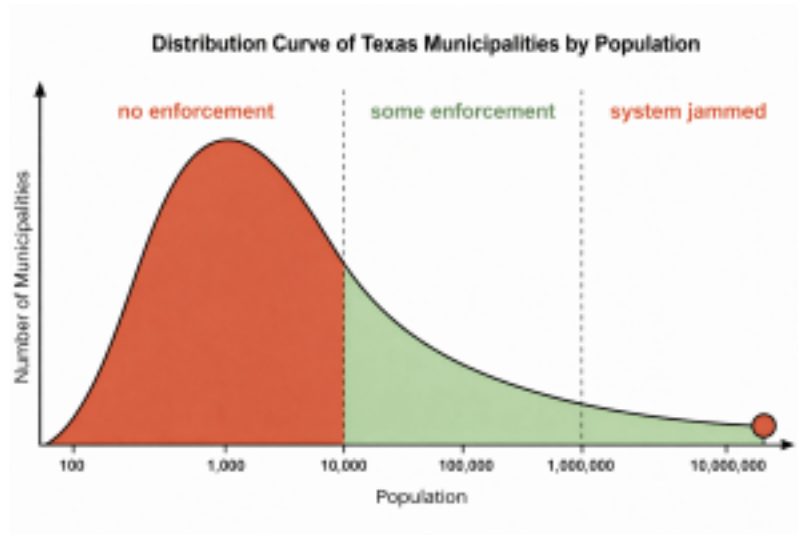
MOST MUNICIPALITIES IN TEXAS ARE VERY SMALL



Even though there are so many smaller places, over 75% of Texas' cities, towns, and villages (over 900 municipalities in total) have a municipal court and code enforcement programs. Counties have the same size structure.

S1 L3: And most of them don't do illegal dumping enforcement ...yet

MANY SMALL PLACES ARE STILL LEARNING ABOUT ENFORCEMENT



For smaller places, the problem is getting the enforcement system working at all.
