

# Arranging your own waste removal

As a householder, you have a legal obligation (Duty of Care) to take all reasonable measures to ensure that your waste is disposed of properly.

The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations require all householders to make sure their waste is only removed from their premises by registered waste *carriers*

In keeping with Duty of Care regulations, it is an offence for householders to pass on waste to an unauthorised person. A maximum fine of £5,000 may be imposed on prosecuted offenders. If fly-tipped waste is traced back to a particular household, the householders could be fined up to £5000.

The household duty of care regulations are not there to 'scare people'. The regulations are an extra weapon in the armoury to eliminate fly-tipping. They are all about householders, working with their council to combat the blight of fly-tipping and make sure rubbish is dealt with properly and responsibly.

Unlicensed waste carriers are likely to cut corners in order to be able to offer their services at lower prices than the going rates, unfairly undercutting legitimate businesses who take their environmental responsibilities seriously.

Unlicensed carriers may be tempted to illegally dump, or 'fly-tip', the waste they collect in order to avoid the charges for proper disposal - not only does this have the obvious consequences of pollution and environmental damage, but the Council Tax payer has to fund the clear-up costs of waste dumped on public land, and landowners have to bear this cost themselves if waste is fly-tipped on private land.

The following is here to help you make an informed decision and ensure your waste does not end up flytipped in our beautiful countryside. Remember, never be scared to challenge, check and ask questions.

## How to stay legal and avoid rogue waste collectors

### **Check the person or company are a registered waste carrier**

You can check this by searching the Environment Agency's [public register](#). If they are not on the list, they may not be legitimate, please check by calling 03708 506 506.

### **Get a written receipt/transfer note and if possible pay by card**

This should show their contact details, a description of your waste, and details of where they are taking it. Paying by card on electron transfer also creates a traceable audit trail. [Click here for an example of a waste transfer note](#).

## **Keep a note of the vehicle details that takes your waste away**

This should include the vehicle make, colour and registration. A photograph is ideal, no legitimate trader should mind this.

## **Always obtain more than one quote**

If the quote seems too cheap then it probably is and should be treated with suspicion. Make sure you get another quote, and ask for details of what this includes. If your waste is subsequently flytipped with a too good to be true quote, you can still be liable to a fine or prosecution.

## **More information**

For more information about your duty of care, staying legal and safe when arranging removals for your waste please read the [GOV.UK page](#).

Other options for ensuring your waste is correctly and safely disposed of is using the bulky waste collection which your [District Councils](#) provide, or if it is an item from your home, we may be able to accept it one of the recycling centres across the County. More information can be found by clicking on [what we can accept](#), and [where your local site is](#).

**Fly-tipping, it's not just rubbish, it's criminal and defaces our wonderful countryside. Let's put a stop to it**

**To avoid fly-tipping from happening, follow the important checks. You don't want to get a fine because you have given your waste to someone who is going to end up doing this.**