

# The City of Troy, Alabama Littering Ordinance of 2014

Ordinance No. 346, as amended



## Can I report a violation?

Yes. Anyone may report violations of this ordinance by calling 311 or (334) 566-0177.

## What if I don't comply with the city's littering ordinance?

Our main objective is to obtain voluntary compliance with all of Troy's municipal codes. If for some reason you don't comply, you may be subject to a range of fines or penalties for each offense.

## What are the penalties for non-compliance?

Any person who shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of the littering ordinance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction can be fined up to **\$300** for a first violation, **\$400** for a second violation within the one year, and **\$500** for the third and any subsequent violations, plus any applicable court costs. Each day on which a violation of this ordinance occurs shall be a separate and distinct violation and shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

To see the complete list of penalties and other enforcement measures, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov).

## Is this all the information or how can I get more information about the City of Troy Littering Ordinance of 2014?

The summaries in this guide are intended for general guidance only, for complete information, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov/](http://www.troyal.gov/) or call 311 or (334) 566-0177.



## The City of Troy, Alabama

Troy City Hall  
301 Charles W. Meeks Avenue  
PO Box 549  
Troy, Alabama 36081  
(334) 566-0177  
Fax: (334) 670-6061  
Email: [contact@troyal.info](mailto:contact@troyal.info)  
[www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov)

# The City of Troy, Alabama Littering Ordinance of 2014

Ordinance No. 346, as amended

## A GUIDE FOR BUSINESS OWNERS AND EMPLOYERS

### What is the City of Troy Littering Ordinance of 2014?

On June 24, 2014 the City Council of Troy voted unanimously to pass an ordinance amending the City of Troy Code, Chapter 11, Article IV. - Littering, as amended to provide cleaner and safer environments for us to live, work and play.

### Why is this law helpful to me as a business owner?

This law will help to reduce litter in our City and its economical, sociological, and environmental impacts. Litter cleanup costs the U.S. almost \$11.5 billion each year, with businesses paying \$9.1 billion. Governments, schools, and other organizations pick up the remainder. Community economy and quality of life suffer. The presence of litter in a community takes a toll on quality of life, property values, and housing prices. KAB's 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study found that litter in a community decreases property values 7%. Litter has environmental consequences. Wind and weather, traffic, and animals move litter into gutters, lawns and landscaped areas, alleyways, and parking structures. Debris may be carried by storm drains into local waterways, with potential for serious environmental contamination.

### How is litter defined by the Ordinance?

Litter means trash, garbage, refuse, junk, debris, rubbish, food waste, yard waste, uncontainerized man-made solid or liquid waste, or other waste, including but not limited to any paper, bottles, cartons, cans, cups, metal, glass, plastics, food wrappers, wrappings, diapers, any unlighted cigarette, cigar, cigarette butts, crockery, scrap metal, construction materials, liquid or granular substances, hazardous materials, rubbish, disposable packages or containers, boxes or cardboard, whether or not it is of value and, further, whether or not the same is perishable or nonperishable, that is thrown, dumped, deposited, or stored as prohibited in this ordinance. *For more definitions, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov).*

### What do I need to know about areas surrounding commercial/industrial premises?

- It is the duty of every owner / occupant of any commercial/industrial premises to keep the adjacent and surrounding area clear and free of litter, high grass and weeds.
- All persons performing construction and demolition work, or occupants of commercial/industrial premises are to provide on-site receptacles for loose debris, paper, building materials waste, scrap building materials and other litter products to prevent scattering.
- No owner / occupant of commercial/industrial premises may grant permission to any person to dispose of litter, garbage, trash or junk on his property.
- All owners / occupants of commercial/industrial premises shall store their litter, trash, and solid waste in proper solid waste containers and shall maintain their premises to be clean, neat and sanitary. Spillage and overflow around the containers shall immediately be cleaned up as it occurs.
- Work and storage areas of all licensed junk dealers, tire dealers, recycling centers, auto repair businesses, body shops, or commercial premises used for the repair, rebuilding, reconditioning, salvaging, or storage of goods, recyclable materials, abandoned, discarded, unused, unusable, or inoperative vehicles, appliances, furniture, tires, equipment, derelict property, or material shall be screened from public view by a privacy fence, hedge, wall, door, or similar device of sufficient height to provide a visual buffer.

For a more extensive list, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov).

# The City of Troy, Alabama Littering Ordinance of 2014

Ordinance No. 346, as amended



## What about litter thrown from or allowed to spill from vehicles or trailers?

- It is unlawful for any person in a vehicle, which shall include any motor vehicle attached to or pulling a trailer, to drop, deposit, discard, throw, allow to fall or otherwise dispose of litter in or upon any private or public property within the City including but not limited to, any street, median, right-of-way, or sidewalk. The owner of the vehicle is also responsible in the event that any person commits any such preceding unlawful act while occupying and/or operating said owner's motor vehicle, which shall include any motor vehicle attached to or pulling a trailer, whether it is moving or at rest.
- It is unlawful for any person; to drive, operate, or permit to be operated, any vehicle or trailer upon the public streets or other public ways of the City or its police jurisdiction, when such vehicle is so constructed, maintained, or loaded, that gravel, cement, liquid, asphalt, petroleum products, tar, trash, paper, debris, trash, or litter of any kind is permitted to be thrown from, blow, allow to fall, or spill from such vehicle or trailer upon public or private property.
- It is unlawful for any person to haul garbage, paper, trash, or litter unless the truck, vehicle, or trailer is covered, secured, or sealed to the extent that there will be no loss or spillage during haulage to cause littering of streets highways or cause a nuisance or hazard to the public health.
- Any person operating, or permitting to be operated, a vehicle or trailer in violation of this section, shall immediately cause the public place or property to be cleared of such objects and shall bear the costs thereof.

## What about the maintenance of the premises of the business?

- **Unlawful accumulation of trash, litter, or debris.** It is unlawful for the owner / occupant or other person in charge or control of a structure, lot, or other premises to allow the accumulation of garbage, trash, litter, debris, refuse, rags, paper, derelict property, rubbish or waste.
- **Unlawful accumulation of junk, furniture, tires and appliances.** It is unlawful for the owner / occupant or other person in charge or control of a structure, lot, or other premises to allow the accumulation or open storage of junk, salvage materials, household furniture, derelict property, used motor vehicle tires, kitchen or other household appliances unless the owner is lawfully operating a junkyard, recycling center, landfill or similar licensed business pursuant to all zoning, licensing, environmental and related regulations and laws and stores such materials as herein defined and regulated.
- **Unlawful placement of litter, junk, trash or other waste material.** It is unlawful for the owner / occupant of any store, shop, structure, building, or other premises or for any other person to place any trash, litter, junk, garbage, solid waste or other waste material on the premises outside of such premises except it be in a suitable solid waste container. It is the duty of the owner / occupant or other person in charge or control of store, shop, house, structure, building, or other premises to store all such trash, litter, junk, garbage, solid waste or other waste material so that it cannot become scattered by wind, rain, animals, or otherwise.
- **Sidewalks, curbs and rights-of-way.** It is the duty of any person, owner or occupant whose property abuts any public right-of-way to keep any sidewalks, curbs and public right-of-way between the street and their property line mowed and free of litter, trash, junk, and high grasses and weeds.

For a more extensive list, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov).

# The City of Troy, Alabama Littering Ordinance of 2014

Ordinance No. 346, as amended



## How about wrecked, abandoned, nonoperating vehicles?

It is unlawful for any person in charge or control of any real property within the City, whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, or otherwise, to allow any partially dismantled, nonoperating, abandoned, wrecked, junked, or discarded vehicle to remain on such real property longer than forty-eight (48) hours; except that section shall not apply with regard to a vehicle in an enclosed building; a vehicle on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner and in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise; or a vehicle in an appropriate storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner by the City.

## What are the requirements of the Litter Ordinance relating to commercial solid waste?

- Solid waste shall be stored in water, insect and rodent proof containers, provided with tight fitting lids. Containers shall be kept securely covered at all times. Drain plugs shall be in place at all times except during cleaning. Solid waste containers shall be cleaned at a frequency to prevent insect and rodent attraction.
- Collected solid waste shall be disposed of at least once per week and more frequently if the amount and type of solid waste warrant such frequency. There shall be a sufficient number of solid waste containers to hold all the solid waste that accumulates between disposal intervals.
- It is unlawful for any person in charge or control of any premises to allow or permit garbage, trash, and/or solid waste containers to be open or uncovered, and it is unlawful for any such person to permit or allow an accumulation of garbage, trash, junk or litter in the vicinity of any garbage, trash, and/or solid waste container serving such premises.

For a more extensive list, please view the entire Ordinance and amendments at [www.troyal.gov](http://www.troyal.gov).

## What is the required time period to clean-up my property?

- **Party Litter.** Party litter violations shall be corrected as soon as possible within twenty-four (24) hours of the notice.
- **Wrecked, abandoned, nonoperating vehicles.** Partially dismantled, abandoned, nonoperating, wrecked, or junked vehicles shall be removed as soon as possible within forty-eight (48) hours of the notice.
- **Slightly Littered.** Litter which is obvious and could be prone to scattered by wind, rain, and animals and which can be collected quickly by one to two individuals shall be corrected as soon as possible within forty-eight (48) hours of the notice.
- **Moderately Littered.** Litter which is obvious and which can be collected with an effort by one to two individuals shall be corrected as soon as possible within five (5) days of the notice.
- **Significantly Littered.** Litter which constitutes an incessant amount of litter, creates a strong impression of a lack of concern about litter, and which may require an organized effort or equipment for removal shall be corrected as soon as possible within fourteen (14) days of the notice.
- **Grossly Littered.** Litter which constitutes an extensive amount of litter or unlawful open storage or accumulation of junk, salvage materials, household furniture, derelict property, and/or debris which will require an organized effort or may require equipment for removal shall be corrected as soon as possible within thirty (30) days of the notice.

## Can I appeal for a time extension for cleaning-up my property?

Yes. An extension of time may be requested by making a written request to the City Council within the correction period stated in the notice. The grant of such extension of time shall be in the sole and absolute discretion of the City Council, which shall not be subject to review.