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# Butte County Public Works Department



BEFORE



AFTER

Illegal Dumping Program

# The History

- Butte County had no effective tools for the enforcement of illegal dumping.
- Public Works Road Crews spent at least 1 day a week cleaning up illegal dump sites in the County Right-of-Way; averaging \$50,000 - \$75,000 per year.
- Not only was there real cost involved, available resources to maintain roads were reduced.

# The Ordinance

## PART 1

- After 1 ½ years in development, Chapter 49 (Unlawful Refuse Dumping Violation) of the Butte County Code Adopted on January 28, 2005
- The Ordinance created a “Cradle to the Grave” determination for solid waste. “It’s your trash and your responsible to see that it is legally disposed of.”
- Misdemeanor Offense, and
- Established an Administrative Order / Hearing process to minimize the impact on the courts.
- \$100 / \$200 / \$300 Fines; Hearing Officer; Appeal

# The Ordinance

## PART 2

- Established seizure and forfeiture of the vehicle used in the illegal dumping act – vehicles used to facilitate illegal dumping is declared a nuisance.
- District Attorney prosecutes vehicle seizure and forfeiture cases.
- District Attorney was actively involved in the development of vehicle seizure and forfeiture language. “Appeal Court tested” language.

# The Program

- On April 11, 2005 Butte County Public Works Department hired it's own Code Enforcement Officer to administer this program.
- An Illegal Dumping Hotline was established to report illegal dumping activities.
- Multi-media advertising campaign
- GIS database developed in house to track dumping hot spots in the County.
- Case tracking database developed in house to manage and track cases.

# What's Needed for Enforcement

- A Dump Site
- 2 Items linking trash to Suspect
  - Mail
  - Receipts
  - Photos



# Active Enforcement is the Key



*Testing "Roadside Camouflage"*

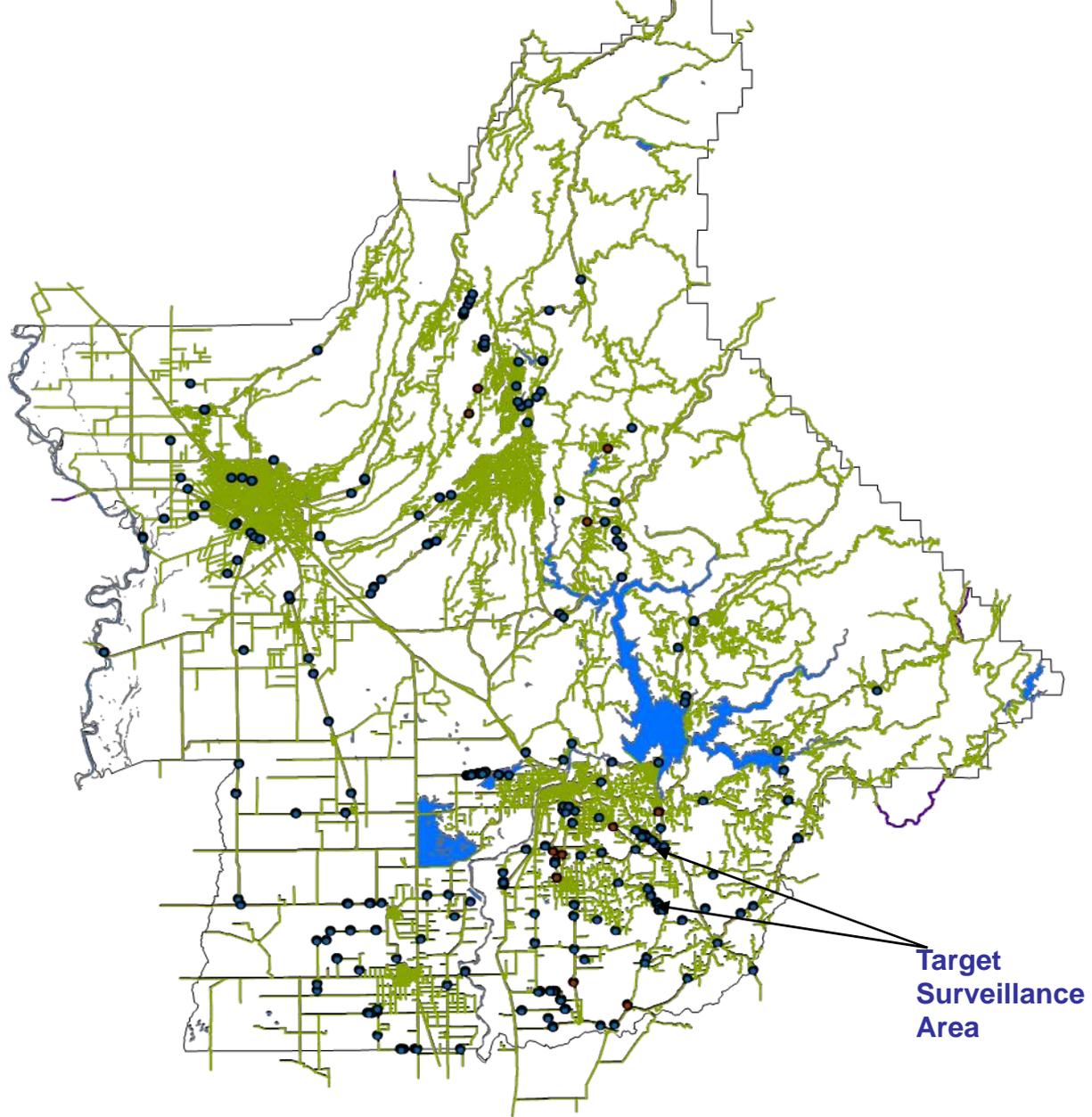
# Active Enforcement is the Key

- Take a Proactive Approach
- Determine your “HOT SPOTS”
  - Active Patrol
  - Post Signs
- Community Education
  - Neighborhood Watch Groups
  - Use the Media to your advantage
- Fast Abatement of dump sites
  - The longer it sits the bigger it gets

# The First 8 Months

(April – December 2005)

- 117 Reported Cases with evidence
- Out of the 117 Cases, 83 were Single Family Rental Units
- 90 “Responsible Party” contacted
- 87 Sites Abated by Responsible Party
- The 3 remaining sites abated by Public Works and the Responsible Parties billed for the cost.
- Public Works crews cleaned sites where a Responsible Party could not be determined



Plotting Cases Shows Areas in Need of Increased Surveillance

# 2006 Illegal Dumping Cases

- 46 Reported Cases with evidence
- Out of the 46 Cases, 22 were Single Family Rental Units
- 46 Responsible Party Contacted
- 46 Sites Abated by Responsible Party
- Acquired Waste Tire Enforcement Grant from California Integrated Waste Management Board

# 2006/2007 Waste Tire Enforcement Grant

- 95 Tire Generators Inspected
- 17 Notice of Violations issued
- 16 Sites brought into compliance after NOV was issued
- 1 Site pending CIWMB enforcement action
- 31 Illegal Waste Tire Dump Sites Located
- 1,561 Tires Abated by Public Works

# 2007 Illegal Dumping Cases

- 28 Reported Cases with evidence
- Out of the 28 Cases, 14 were Single Family Rental Units
- 28 Responsible Party Contacted
- 28 Sites Abated by Responsible Party

# 2007/2008 Waste Tire Enforcement Grant

- 105 Tire Generators Inspected
- 3 Notice of Violations issued
- 3 Sites brought into compliance after NOV was issued
- 1 Site pending CIWMB enforcement action
- 51 Illegal Waste Tire Dump Sites Located
- 1,544 Tires Abated by Public Works

# 2008 Illegal Dumping Cases

- 11 Reported Cases with evidence
- Out of the 11 Cases, 11 were Single Family Rental Units
- 11 Responsible Party Contacted
- 11 Sites Abated by Responsible Party

# 2008/2009 Waste Tire Enforcement Grant

- 105 Tire Generators Inspected
- 3 Notice of Violations issued
- All Sites brought into compliance after NOV was issued
- 2 Site pending CIWMB enforcement action
- 77 Illegal Waste Tire Dump Sites Located
- 2,071 Tires Abated by Public Works



# 2009 Illegal Dumping Cases

- 6 Reported Cases with evidence
- Out of the 6 Cases, 4 were Single Family Rental Units
- 6 Responsible Party Contacted
- 6 Sites Abated by Responsible Party

**“But I paid this guy who came to my house who said he would take my stuff to the dump for 20 bucks.”**

**“No, I don’t know who he is and I can’t remember what he was driving.”**

# The Program has Evolved

- Based on the high percentage of Single Family Rentals involved in Illegal Dumping activities (71%)
  - A change was made in our Solid Waste Ordinance requiring all Single Family Rentals have trash service provided by the Property Owner.
  - It is now the responsibility of the Property Owner to Abate the Dump Site if the tenant does not comply with the Administrative Order.
- With the large number of waste tires being dumped in our County, we applied to the CIWMB for the Waste Tire Enforcement Grant and received it (\$120,000/yr).



# What's Next

- Ad Campaign designed to promote the success of the program due to community involvement.
- Expand “Adopt-a-Road” program
- Expand neighborhood contacts
- Refresh “NO DUMPING” signs in high impact areas and the roads leading to rural dump sites / targeted areas – GIS mapping.

# Be Careful With What You Find



# Other Resources

- Law Enforcement
  - Drug Task Force
  - CHP
  - Patrol Deputies
  - Fish and Game
  - State Parole
  - Probation Department
  - Forest Service Law Enforcement
  - BLM Law Enforcement



# Resource Information

- Mike Crump, Director, BCPW
- Bill Mannel, Manager, Waste Management Div., BCPW
- Scot Johnson, Code Enforcement, BCPW

**530-879-2353**

- Presentation and Illegal Dumping Ordinance available on Butte County website at:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/publicworks/illegaldumping.html>