

30 June 2017 Media Statement

Cameras nab return dumper

A 33-year-old Camillo man who was twice caught on covert cameras emptying trailer-loads of waste in Forrestdale was fined \$1000 in Armadale Magistrates Court today.

The Department of Environment Regulation's (DER) Illegal Dumping Program launched the prosecution against Steven Gventer Hill during a covert surveillance operation at a roadside dumping 'hotspot' on Kargotich Road.

The first incident occurred on 18 February 2016, when Mr Hill drove a Toyota Landcruiser to Kargotich Road and unloaded a tandem trailer loaded with green garden waste onto the road verge.

Four days later the accused returned to the same spot, this time dumping a trailer-load of household waste including plates, boxes and clothes onto the road verge.

Hill, who runs a small business mowing lawns and cleaning yards, admitted dumping the waste.

On the first occasion, he claimed he did not charge his client enough to cover disposal fees and on the second he said he dumped the waste as the tip had just closed when he arrived.

Mr Hill was found guilty of two counts of illegal dumping.

In addition to the \$1000 fine, Magistrate Lemmon ordered him to pay court costs of \$1250.

DER Acting Senior Manager Investigations for the Illegal Dumping Program, Cliff Bliss, said he hoped successful prosecutions like this would deter 'would-be' dumpers'.

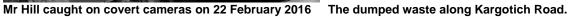
"Instead of making sure the waste was properly disposed of at the tip nearby, this person chose to illegally dump it – on two separate occasions – leaving an unsightly mess that had the potential to impact people's health and the environment," he said.

"In this case the City of Armadale, which we would like to thank for their ongoing work to combat illegal dumping, footed a clean-up bill – which has an impact on ratepayers."

DER conducts more than 200 illegal dumping investigations every year and monitors covert surveillance across the State.

Anyone who witnesses <u>illegal dumping</u> can report it to the Department's 24-hour Pollution Watch Hotline on 1300 784 782 or via <u>pollutionwatch@der.wa.gov.au</u>







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