



SAN ANTONIO
RIVER AUTHORITY

Illegal Dumping

Friday, June 14, 2024



What is Illegal Dumping?



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HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

TITLE 5. SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

SUBTITLE B. SOLID WASTE, TOXIC CHEMICALS, SEWAGE, LITTER, AND WATER

CHAPTER 365. LITTER

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS



What is Illegal Dumping?

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SUBTITLE B. SOLID WASTE, TOXIC CHEMICALS, SEWAGE, LITTER, AND WATER
CHAPTER 365. LITTER
SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 365.012. ILLEGAL DUMPING; DISCARDING LIGHTED MATERIALS; CRIMINAL PENALTIES. (a) A person commits an offense if the person disposes or allows or permits the disposal of litter or other solid waste at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, including a place on or within 300 feet of a public highway, on a right-of-way, on other public or private property, or into inland or coastal water of the state.



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(a-1) A person commits an offense if:

- (1) the person discards lighted litter, including a match, cigarette, or cigar, onto open-space land, a private road or the right-of-way of a private road, a public highway or other public road or the right-of-way of a public highway or other public road, or a railroad right-of-way; and
- (2) a fire is ignited as a result of the conduct described by Subdivision (1).

(b) A person commits an offense if the person receives litter or other solid waste for disposal at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, regardless of whether the litter or other solid waste or the land on which the litter or other solid waste is disposed is owned or controlled by the person.

(c) A person commits an offense if the person transports litter or other solid waste to a place that is not an approved solid waste site for disposal at the site.

(d) An offense under Subsection (a), (b), or (c) is a Class C misdemeanor if the litter or other solid waste to which the offense applies weighs five pounds or less or has a volume of five gallons or less.

(d-1) An offense under Subsection (a-1) is a misdemeanor under this subsection if the litter or other solid waste to which the offense applies weighs less than 500 pounds or has a volume of less than 100 cubic feet and is punishable by:

- (1) a fine not to exceed \$500;
- (2) confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 30 days; or
- (3) both such fine and confinement.

(e) An offense under Subsection (a), (b), or (c) is a Class B misdemeanor if the litter or other solid waste to which the offense applies weighs more than five pounds but less than 500 pounds or has a volume of more than five gallons but less than 100 cubic feet.

(f) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor if:

- (1) the litter or other solid waste to which the offense applies weighs 500 pounds or more but less than 1,000 pounds or has a volume of 100 cubic feet or more but less than 200 cubic feet; or
- (2) the litter or other solid waste is disposed for a commercial purpose and weighs more than five pounds but less than 200 pounds or has a volume of more than five gallons but less than 200 cubic feet.



What is illegal Dumping?

- Disposing of material in a...
 - Riparian zone
 - Floodplain
 - Public right-of-way
 - Creek or river



Impacts – Sediment



- Fish
- Mussels
- Aquatic Insects
- Water Quality
- Flooding



Impacts – Sediment



Impacts – Sediment



Impacts – Sediment



Impacts – Sediment



Impacts – Sediment



Impacts – Trash

- Water Quality
 - Microplastics
 - PFAS
 - Bacteria
- Aesthetics
- Aquatic life



Impacts – Trash



Impacts – Trash



Illegal Dumping



Adobe Stock | 117251077

- 2018-19 study by the TX Association of Regional Council's:
 - More than 5,000 illegal dumping sites
 - 1,684 violators cited
 - 21.6 million pounds of waste removed (~16,100 longhorns)
 - 213,000 tires




Reporting Illegal Dumping

- County dependent
 - Bexar – Call 311
 - Wilson, Karnes and Goliad – Sheriff's Offices
- River Authority
 - <https://www.sariverauthority.org/about/contact/>



Reporting Illegal Dumping

Environmental Incident Report



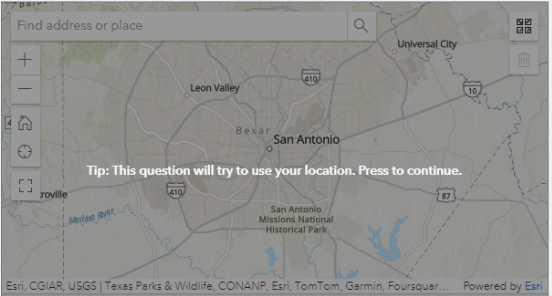
San Antonio River Authority

Please note that if this is an emergency, call 9-1-1.
If you live in Bexar County and are reporting construction runoff, dumping, sewage overflow, or a watermain break, injured or sick wildlife, please call 3-1-1.

What are you reporting?*

-Please select-

Identify the location of this concern.*



Esri, CGIAR, USGS | Texas Parks & Wildlife, CONANP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare... Powered by Esri

When did you first notice this incident?*

6/13/2024 02:08 PM

Please provide any photos of the environmental incident.

1 Drop image here or select image (maximum number of files allowed: 5)

Has this happened before at this location?*

Yes

No

I don't know

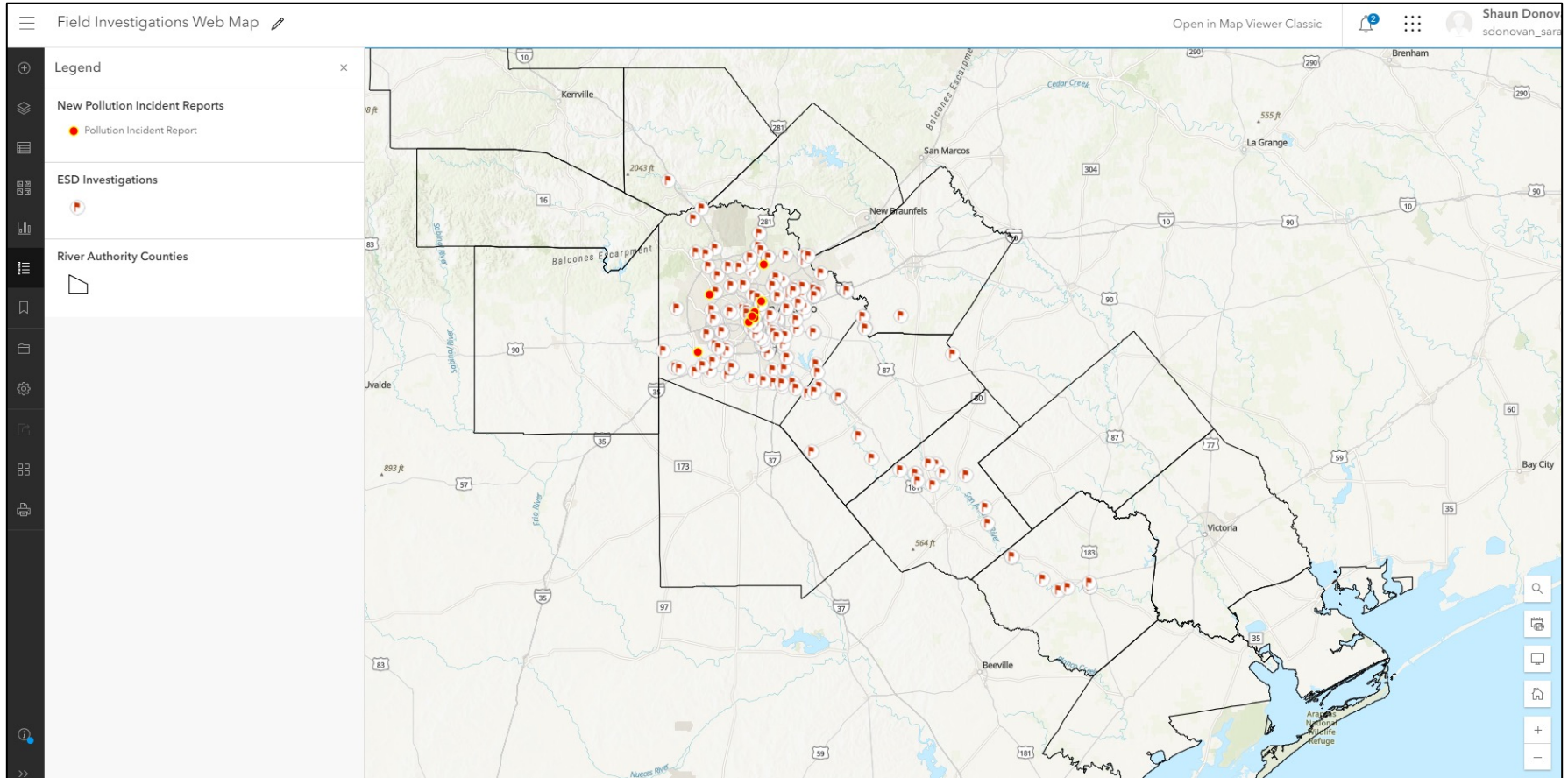
Have you observed any activity that may have caused this? If so, please describe.*

Please list specific hazards and characteristics, if any, such as strong odors, unusual coloration, and unsafe conditions.*

Have you reported this to any other authority or organization? If so, which ones? Have they responded?*



Environmental Incident Tracking



Environmental Incident Tracking

The screenshot displays the 'Field Investigations Web Map' interface. On the left, a sidebar contains a legend, a list of 'New Pollution Incident Reports' (indicated by red dots), 'ESD Investigations', and 'River Authority Counties'. The main map area shows a geographical view with various incident markers. A popup window titled 'Construction Debris' is open, displaying the following information:

Report Title	Construction Debris
Description	Illegal Dumping SAR
Date	3/9/2023, 6:00 AM
Time	9:30am
Category	Illegal Dumping
County	Karnes
Stream_Segment(s)	San Antonio River

The map interface includes standard navigation tools like zoom in/out, pan, and search, and a user profile for 'Shaun Donovan' in the top right corner.



Environmental Incident Tracking

Environmental Incident Reports

Reports

- Submitted on: 6/12/2024
- Submitted on: 6/11/2024
- Submitted on: 6/7/2024
- Submitted on: 6/6/2024
- Submitted on: 6/5/2024
- Submitted on: 6/5/2024
- Submitted on: 6/5/2024
- Submitted on: 6/3/2024
- Submitted on: 5/13/2024

Total: 9 | Selection: 1

Incident by Report Type

- Emergency Spill
- Illegal Dumping
- Water Quality Concerns
- Fish Kill
- Illicit Discharge
- Other

< 1 of 9 >

What are you reporting?

Other - Construction Debris

When did you first notice this incident?

5/21/2024, 12:00 PM

Report was submitted on 6/12/2024, 10:53 AM

Has this happened at this location before?

I don't know

Have you observed any activity that may have caused this? If so, please describe.

Developers at this construction site have pushed debris into the floodplain north of the Blue Hole.

Please list specific hazards and characteristics, if any, such as strong odors, unusual coloration, and unsafe conditions.

The developer's actions have created potentially harmful conditions for the riparian environment. The area is in a floodplain that drains toward Olmos Creek and the Blue Hole. The debris and associated pollutants could be washed down stream.

Have you reported this to any other authority or organization? If so, which ones? Have they responded?

SA River Authority, Edwards Aquifer Alliance is aware.

Do you want to be contacted for a follow up regarding this concern?

Britt Coleman; 210-262-6364; PresBAS@bexaraudubon.org

Supplemental Information:

City: Alamo Heights

COSA Council District: Not in San Antonio

County: Bexar

Watershed: Upper San Antonio





To learn more about the San Antonio River Authority, visit sariverauthority.org