

# Keep Pinal Pristine

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# The Problem

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# Pinal County, Arizona

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Located 110 kilometers north of the Mexican border, Pinal County is about 14,000 kilometers squared (it takes roughly an 1hr to drive from North to South at 130kph and approximately 1.5hrs if one could drive East to West in straight line).

Only approximately 17% of our land is privately owned. The rest is owned by the Federal Government, State Trust Land, National Forests and Native American Reservations.

The vast majority of our population is contained within less than a dozen cities, towns and communities.

While we are surrounded by mountains, the majority of our land is flat, arid desert with little tree cover and no naturally growing grasslands.



We didn't get into this problem in just a few days and we won't be out of it quickly either.

Systemic problems require dynamic multi-partner involvement with long-term sustainable solutions.

Public Works

Community Development

Public Health-Environmental Health

County Attorney

Sheriff's Office

County Management

# One Stop Informational Shop

**PINAL COUNTY**  
WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY

HomeOnline ServicesVisitorsJobsGovernmentEconomic Development

I'm looking for...

**View All Departments**

- COVID-19 Info
- Business
- Courts
- Education
- Elected Officials
- Elections
- Voter Information
- Forms
- Jobs
- Health & Safety
- Library
- News & Information
- Pets
- Property Taxes
- Public Safety
- Contact Us

**Items of Interest**

- Public Transportation
- FY 2021-2022 Adopted Budget
- Code of Ordinances
- 2017-2018 Pinal County Report to Citizens

**KEEP PINAL PRISTINE**

**Report Illegal Dump Site**

**Rewards Program**  
for reporting  
Illegal Dumping

**Pinal County Cleanup Events**

**Pinal County Disposal Services**

**FREE Disposal Days**  
sponsored by  
Republic Services  
Cactus Landfill  
and  
Right Away Disposal

**Adopt a County Road**

[Report to Citizens](#)  
[Advocacy & Lobbying](#)  
[Pinal County Strategic Planning](#)  
[Arizona Criminal Justice Commission](#)

**Contact Center 311**  
Mon-Fri 8AM-5PM  
520.509.3555  
888.431.1311

**Stay in touch with Pinal County**  
 Subscribe to our email news list

**REPORT FRAUD**  
 County Fraud Online Form  
877.874.8416

Click here to see if there's a cleanup event in your area soon!







Pinal County Environmental Health responds to citizen complaints of illegal dump sites in the unincorporated areas of the county. We work with property owners to effect cleanup of trash from their property; Pinal County Environmental Health does not provide collection or cleanup services.

Illegal dump sites often occurs close to inhabited communities. Solid waste, which should have been disposed in an approved landfill or other approved location, can lead to contamination of soil and groundwater that adversely affects our neighborhoods and families.

Dispose of your garbage and other waste appropriately, at least twice per week in suburban areas or once per week in rural areas. Do not let garbage and household trash accumulate on your property. Obtain garbage service from an approved hauler or individually dispose of your trash at a landfill or transfer station. Compost vegetative matter or dispose of it with other solid waste. Never dump any waste in the desert, along a road, or on a vacant lot.

If you are aware of an illegal dump site, please contact Pinal County Environmental Health to file a complaint. Please be ready to provide your contact information and detailed information as to the location so we may efficiently investigate your complaint.

To file a nuisance complaint for an illegal dump site, please call 520-866-6864. Or to file online: [CLICK HERE](#)

To report someone who is dumping their trash please contact the Pinal County Sheriff's office at 520-866-5111

Please click on flyers to learn more about what waste is accepted and what is not. Due to COVID-19 Pinal County Public Works kindly ask all residents to remain in your vehicles. Staff will unload all waste and deris.

**+ Items Accepted**

Bagged Household Trash, Green Waste (ex. Tree Trimmings, Grass, Plants, Etc)  
Tires, Furniture, Appliances, Debris from Home Improvement Projects, Metal,  
and Concrete (No Commerical Loads, Limitations May Apply)

— Items Not Accepted

Batteries, Oil, Paint, Anti-Freeze, Motor Oil, Gas, Bio-Hazards, Herbicides, Pesticides, and Commercial Wastes Tires (Contractor, Business Waste and Debris)

For any questions call Jason Jordan at 520-705-8824  PINAL COUNTY

**Where:** 3535 E. Hunt Highway, STV 85142



[Register Here](#)

**+ Items Accepted**

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and Concrete (No Commerical Loads, Limitations May Apply)

#### Items Not Accepted

#### Menu

Environmental Services Home  
Waste Tires  
Landfill & Transfer Stations  
Hazardous Wastes  
White Appliance Collection Services

### Disposal Services

One of the great ways to keep our county clean and beautiful is by properly disposing waste. Below is information on available disposal services and how to properly dispose certain items.



**Landfill & Transfer Stations** - There are several landfills and transfer stations spread throughout Pinal County. Here you can view a list of locations and contact information. Please be aware not all landfills and transfer stations operate the same. Some

restrictions may apply differently. We highly advise to contact the facility with any questions prior to visiting.



**Hazardous Wastes** - Everyone should understand the importance of properly disposing household hazardous waste. However, many may not realize certain items are considered hazardous or know where to dispose of household

hazardous waste. Here you will find a list of hazardous items and information on a location in Pinal County where you can properly dispose such items.



**White Appliance Collection Services** - The term "White Appliances" refers to recyclable major appliances that can play a major role in manufacturing raw material-scrapped steel and other metals. White appliance collection

services take all types of appliances as long as they are not plastic. Here you will find a list of items and information about our Pinal County Public Works Material Recovery Center drop-off site.



**Waste Tires** - If you would like to dispose of your waste tires, please come visit our Pinal County Public Works Material Recovery Center. If you are a business that generates waste tires in Pinal County you will need to obtain a Pinal County

Waste Tire Disposal Permit. A downloadable form is available. Please note this only pertains to businesses. Here you will find contact/location information and a list of requirements for waste tires.



**Earth911** - A great resource to guide you on proper recycling and disposal methods. A handy search engine provides the nearest locations to dispose of batteries, paint, computers, cell phones, old household cleaners, motor oil, various

chemicals, CFL light bulbs, and much more. Also useful for medical items such as medications, syringes, and mercury thermostats.



**How do I properly dispose of medical syringes?** - Pinal County Material Recovery Center receive numerous calls about medical syringes. With the growing amount of patients self-injecting medicines at home more people are unfortunately

improperly disposing. Please view our [Hazardous Wastes](#) webpage for details on how to properly dispose of medical syringes.

### FREE DISPOSAL DAYS SPONSORED BY REPUBLIC SERVICES CACTUS LANDFILL

Open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Hwy 79 and Deep Wells Ranch Road, Florence AZ  
Phone: 602-237-2078

<b>2021</b>	January 9th	April 10th	July 10th	October 9th
<b>2022</b>	January 8th	April 9th	July 9th	October 8th

Commercial loads, appliances, tires, and hazardous materials  
WILL NOT be accepted on Free Disposal Days.

### FREE DISPOSAL DAYS SPONSORED BY RIGHT AWAY DISPOSAL

8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
22316 S. Harmon Road, Florence, AZ 85132  
480-582-2657

#### FREE DISPOSAL FOR 2021

February 6th

March 13th

May 8th

September 11th

December 11th

#### FREE DISPOSAL FOR 2022

February 12th

March 12th

May 14th

September 10th

December 10th

**Acceptable Waste:** Municipal Solid Waste, House Hold Trash and Food Waste, Non-Hazardous Commercial Waste, Furniture and Appliances (documented free of refrigerant), Construction Debris, Wood, Paper, Metal.

**Non-Acceptable Waste:** Hazardous Medical Waste, Radioactive Waste, Used/Unused Oil, Appliances with unclaimed Refrigerant, Liquid Waste.

# But Are We REALLY Doing Anything?

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Yes:

We have hosted 15 different community clean-ups with **717 tons** of trash collected;

The cleanups have involved more than 4,400 hours of labor and cost more than \$284,000

Hosted 9 “Free Dump Days” and Hazmat clean-ups where we cover the tipping fees;

Partnered with Code Compliance to Facilitate Clean-Ups

Partnered with local community organizations

- We provide Containers, Cover Disposal Fees and Provide PPE Type Supplies

Actively negotiating to obtain Right of Entry onto State and Fed lands

- It should be noted, the majority of identified dumpsites fall on State or Fed Lands





# What About the Illegal Dumping Rewards Program?

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## Rewards Program Basics:

- If a person provides information to Law Enforcement either through our form or via a report to law enforcement **AND** charges are formally brought, the reporting parties receive \$500.
- The person who is charged is given the opportunity to enter Diversion (complete consequences and have the charges dismissed) or plea to the criminal offense.

## Rewards Program Effectiveness:

- As of the end of March, roughly a dozen reports have been filed.
- A couple look potentially promising and PCSO is following up on them.



# What's Next?

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In a perfect world, the County would just do “Free Dump Days” and desert clean-ups everyday. We would also just selectively set-up containers and allow people to bring their trash to us.

The problem is these Dump Days cost the county and the desert clean-ups cost upwards of \$25,000.00 for each and every event. Also, the large containers need to be watched, protected and emptied almost daily. That cost is unsustainable for the County to maintain on a regular basis.



## Possible Solutions:

Our best success has been found in partnering with our community organizations. As a result, we would like to propose the following:

1. Each district hold a massive volunteer day where each district picks a location, asks for the community's help and cleans up select areas;
2. Each district creates and maintains a volunteer database that the county can reach out to request assistance;
3. Allow each county employee to volunteer one day of community clean-up in exchange for comp day;
4. Continue to fund clean-ups, dump days and rewards program.

# Bottom Line:

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The County, under the direction of BOS, has focused on a new initiative, Keep Pinal Pristine.

The community clean-ups and free dump days have been a smashing success!

Our local community organizations have been outstanding.

We now have a dedicated, easy to find webpage that contains nearly all the information that a resident or visitor would need to know about dumping.

But we still have one problem...

We are fighting a losing battle unless we can change the community's mindset. If dumping in our beautiful deserts is simply, "no big deal," there is no amount of money or bodies or services that can help us keep ahead.

Our County will continue to combat this issue with hard work, education and continued public partnerships. It's only together that we can change mindsets and truly "Keep Pinal Pristine!"