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## **GRANTS TARGET ILLEGAL DUMPING HOT SPOTS**

A new State Government program will help local government and charitable organisations tackle illegal dumping in targeted hot spots throughout metropolitan and regional South Australia.

Minister for Environment and Conservation, Gail Gago says the Zero Waste SA grants offer \$290,000 over the next three years to help combat illegal dumping.

“Illegal dumping is a major problem for local and state government as there is a significant burden associated with clean up and disposal costs, enforcement and prevention,” says the Minister.

“A survey in 2005 showed that local government spent some \$1.1 million annually cleaning up illegally dumped waste.

“The problem ranges from trailer loads of household waste to semi-trailer loads of waste from building demolitions or sludge collected from septic tanks.

“Charities are also facing the heartache of rising costs because of the amount of rubbish being dumped at their charity bins which ultimately impacts on their ability to provide much needed services to the community.”

Minister Gago says that funding can be used for a range of initiatives such as:

- Lighting (including solar lights) in poorly illuminated hot spots and signage.
- Landscape / revegetation / beautification for hot spots.
- Projects that target commonly dumped materials e.g. hosting collection days for tyres, mattresses.
- Purchase of surveillance cameras for hot spots.
- Developing and implementing strategies to move charitable collection bins to more secure locations such as CDL depots and shopping centres.

Successful projects may be used as case studies to showcase to other organisations.

Applicants may partner with local groups such as Road Watch organisations and the local real estate industry as illegal dumping impacts on the visual amenity of properties for rental or purchase.

Councils impacted by illegal dumping, including Port Adelaide Enfield, Playford and Mallala and KESAB *environmental solutions* have assisted with the development of the program.

Applications close on 14 December 2007. For more information visit [www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au](http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au)