



COUNTY OF AMHERST



Public Information Officer

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For Immediate Release

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Littering Fine Increased

The Amherst County Board of Supervisors increased the minimum fine for littering in the County during a public hearing at their April 20, 2021 meeting. The Virginia Code allows the penalty for littering to be a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$2,500, 12 months in jail, or both. The Board of Supervisors amended the county code to align with state law.

Here are a few ordinances to keep in mind when dealing with trash.

- Litter shall include, but is not limited to, (Sec. 13-27) any garbage, trash, refuse, rubbish, offal, newspaper, magazine, glass, metal, plastic or paper container, construction waste, or any discarded object likely to injure any person, create a traffic hazard, or degrade the environment.
- Transportation of waste (Sec. 13-30.b). No person shall transport any litter or solid waste in an open or uncovered vehicle along the streets, roads, or highways of the county, unless the load is covered by a tarpaulin or other suitable cover in such manner as to contain the entire load. If any of the contents of the load shall be blown, spilled, fall, or become scattered in or upon any public way or place, such person shall immediately cause such contents to be gathered up and removed and shall pay any cost of the cleanup.
- Duty of owners and occupants (Sec 13-31.a). It shall be the responsibility of each owner, agent, occupant, or lessee to keep his or her property free of litter. The owner, agent, occupant, or lessee of any property shall be responsible for removing litter accumulating on said property.

Thank you for your help in keeping Amherst County a Perfect Slice of Virginia! To view the full Amherst County Code visit: https://library.municode.com/va/amherst_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COCOAMVI

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at jlniehaus@countyofamherst.com or (434)-946-9400.