



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**

10 April 2018

Media Statement

Woman fined for dumping mattresses

A Fremantle woman who blatantly dumped mattresses beneath a “No illegal dumping” sign has been fined \$1,000 in the Fremantle Magistrates Court.

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) launched the prosecution after police officers witnessed 47-year-old Justine Nielsen unloading two mattresses from her van and dumping them on the road verge next to Beeliar Regional Park in Hamilton Hill.

The court heard that on Sunday 30 July 2017 a van driven by Nielsen was seen parked in front of a City of Cockburn sign that read “No illegal dumping on the verge—penalties apply”.

One mattress was on the ground and the police officers observed her unloading the second mattress onto the roadside.

In addition to the fine, Ms Nielsen was ordered to pay costs totaling \$367.30.

DWER Senior Manager Waste Operations, Matt Warnock, said the successful prosecution should act as a warning to ‘would-be’ dumpers.

“Illegal dumping can impact people’s health and the environment and impose significant clean-up costs. DWER works in partnership with the City of Cockburn and other local government authorities to stamp out the illegal dumping of waste”.

The Department conducts around 220 illegal dumping investigations annually and monitors covert surveillance across the State.

Illegal dumping can be reported to DWER’s 24-hour Pollution Watch Hotline on 1300 784 782 or by email to pollutionwatch@dwer.wa.gov.au



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