

Applications Sought for Grants To Clean Up Illegal Open Dumps, Litter

ON [JULY 30, 2025](#) BY [KYDEP](#) IN [UNCATEGORIZED](#)

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 30, 2025) – Applications are now being accepted for grants that will help protect the health and safety of local communities and the beauty of the commonwealth’s natural resources. The two signature programs provide funds for the cleanup of illegal open dumps and the removal of litter along public roads.

“These two successful programs honor our commitment for a better Kentucky by restoring the natural environment, reducing pollution and protecting local ecosystems,” said Rebecca Goodman, secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet. “The Illegal Open Dump Grant has funded the cleanup of nearly 3,000 dump sites since 2006 and the Litter Abatement Grant has assisted every county in maintaining the scenic beauty of our roadways.”

The grants are awarded based on a county’s road miles, rural population and total population. Counties may request specific amounts for an illegal open dump cleanup grant based on the estimated dump costs.

Cleanup of Illegal Dumps

Counties compliant with their five-year solid waste management plan can now apply

for funds to clean up illegal dumps.

If sufficient funds are not available to award every request, grant awards may be prioritized on several factors, including location of the dump relative to sensitive populations or protected areas, the relative hazard posed by the contents of the dumps and the size of the dump.

Applications must be received by Lisa Evans at the Division of Waste Management no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 3, 2025. The completed application, signed original agreement and any supporting documentation must be submitted by **email** in order for the request to be considered complete.

Funding comes from the Kentucky Pride Fund, which is supported by a \$1.75 per ton fee on municipal solid waste produced in Kentucky and disposed of appropriately.

Each dumpsite under \$50,000 requires a 25% local match. Grant application packets are being sent by email to county judge-executives and solid waste coordinators. For more information, contact Lisa Evans by calling [502-782-6355](tel:502-782-6355) or emailing lisa.evans@ky.gov.

Since 2020, the Beshear administration has allocated \$5,084,049.51 in grants to clean up 491 dumpsites throughout Kentucky.

In February, Gov. Andy Beshear announced \$952,657 in grants to clean up 87 illegal dumps in 17 counties across the commonwealth.

Litter Abatement

Grant requests for litter cleanup will be accepted from counties in compliance with

their five-year solid waste management plans and from incorporated cities that, by solid waste ordinance or other means, provide municipal solid waste collection service.

The Litter Abatement Grant program is supported by KRS 224.43-505 with funding from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Since 2003, state and local governments have cleaned 3.78 million miles of roadways with help from these grants.

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In December 2024, \$5.23 million was awarded to Kentucky counties and cities in Litter Abatement Grants.

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