



Region 7 Continued

Litterbugs Are Losers

Litter Reminder From LDWF

By: Sr. Agent Todd Lewis

Wildlife Agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, as you might imagine, regularly patrol outlying rural areas. During their patrols they frequently find illegal dumpsites. "Joe Homeowner" has cleaned out his garage and didn't want to stack all that "stuff" in front of his house where it would sit for 2-4 days before the local trash contractors pick it up, so he decided to go deposit it in a secluded area. Whoops!

Some time later, a Wildlife Agent discovers the pile of "stuff" and rummages through it. In the pile he finds enough information to locate the offender. According to Louisiana law, that's all he or she needs to make their case.

Louisiana Revised Statute 30:2531.1 prohibits depositing refuse on other people's property etc... It includes this: (2) *When litter disposed in violation of this Section is discovered to contain any article or articles, including but not limited to letters, bills, publications, or other writings, which display the name of a person or in any other manner indicate that the article belongs or belonged to such person, there shall be*

an inference that such person has violated this Section.

To make this simple... if they find a pile of litter and it has your name in it, they can write you a ticket.

Penalties for illegal dumping range from five hundred to one thousand of your hard earned dollars AND include eight hours of community service that usually entails picking up other peoples litter on the side of a highway.

Here's some great advice...

DON'T hire anyone other than a licensed contractor to haul off your "stuff". Unlicensed trash haulers often dump refuse at illegal dumpsites. You pay them and then YOU end up with a ticket because YOU failed to ensure that your trash was properly disposed of. Don't do it.

ALWAYS secure trash in the back of your truck or boat. If Agents (or other law enforcement officials) see you traveling down a road or river and something flies out of your vehicle or vessel, you're going to get a ticket. You're right... one can or cup isn't a "big

Continued on page 146



Pat Cella

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Continued from page 145

deal," BUT if they see one can or cup fly out of your boat or truck they'll be inclined to believe that over the years you've allowed hundreds of items to add to the roadside litter problem in our beautiful state. It's just not that difficult to crush the cans or put the cups in a trash bag that you can dispose of when you stop to refuel your vehicle.

REMEMBER... The local landfill may charge what you believe to be a notable fee for accepting your trash, but it's a LOT less expensive than the fines for illegal dumping.

**KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL.
PUT LITTER IN ITS PLACE!**

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Region 7 Continued



Sr. Agents Will Roberts and Chad Menzina with rifle and deer seized from deer taken illegally from roadway.



Sgt. Paul Stuckey accepting a \$500.00 check in support of LWAA from Wal-Mart employee Mrs. Amy Manuel.



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The Avoyelles Wildlife Federation is a non-profit organization working to conserve our natural resources and our right to use them. Visit our website for more information about us:

Avoyelleswildlifefederation.org

Please help secure our hunting future by protecting and conserving our natural resources.

Please support your local wildlife agents.