



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

February 20, 2024

«FirstName»
«Address»
«City», NC «PostalCode»

Dear Sir or Madam:

Recently, a citizen reported someone for discarding «type» from a vehicle with license plate number «license_plate», and reported it to the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Swat-A-Litterbug program. This incident was observed at «hwy» on «date» in «location». At times people have made mistakes in recording numbers, and if that is the case, please accept our apology. If it is not a mistake, please make a conscious effort to properly dispose of your trash.

The SWAT-A-Litterbug program is for educational purposes. However, littering is against the law. Had a law enforcement officer rather than a citizen seen this, the driver could have been fined up to \$1,000 for the first offense and up to \$2,000 for the second offense. Also, upon a finding of guilt, the driver would have received a penalty of one point on his/her driver's license.

Litter is a costly problem. Cleaning litter from North Carolina's roadsides costs taxpayers millions of dollars each year. Cigarette butts are also considered litter and are not readily biodegradable.

There are many things you can do to combat the growing litter problem, but the easiest way to help is to set a good example for others by not littering.

Here are some ways you can make a difference:

- Teach young people not to litter.
- Cover truck beds when transporting trash or other loose items.
- Carry and use a litter bag or pocket ashtray in your vehicle.

Please help us *Keep North Carolina Clean and Green*. The Swat-A-Litterbug Program is supported in part by donations to the "Partners for a Litter-Free N.C." fund.

Sincerely,

North Carolina Department of Transportation