

Join Our Litter Control Campaign Today and Help Keep Mission Clean!



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

-Margaret Mead-

Visit Us On The Web!

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Mission's Litter Abatement Program

Voluntary Code of Practices for Local Businesses Preventing & Reducing "Food on the Go" Litter



Litter Control Program for Businesses in the District of Mission, B.C.



Voluntary Code of Practices for Local Businesses

Introduction

As people live busier lives, work later and eat on the go more frequently, they also drop more litter. There has been an increase in all the types of litter on our streets, especially 'food on the go' or rather, 'fast food' items. Most people find fast food litter one of the most offensive types of litter and are becoming increasingly concerned about the environmental problem it causes, as well as its depreciating aesthetic consequence. As part of Mission Adopt-A-Block's commitment to a cleaner, safer and greener community, the society has developed a Voluntary Code of Practices for



businesses that sell 'food on the go', that suggests what they can do to help reduce the amount of fast food related litter in the community. Types of operators selling 'food on the go' include primary and secondary outlets.

Purpose of the Code

The Code is a list of recommendations, involving the four areas of participation; public education, reducing packaging, proper waste handling & litter management; that businesses may pledge to perform, in partnership with the Mission Adopt-A-Block Society, the District of Mission, and other interested partners to reduce and prevent litter, and improve the local environment.

The Code recognizes that businesses themselves do not drop the litter, but that they must take responsibility by playing their part in improving the local area and therefore, the Voluntary Code of Practices is designed to help businesses work together with other concerned parties to create local solutions for local problems.

Voluntary Code of Practices

Step One

Understand the litter around your business.

Step Two

Provide public education on litter prevention & reduction.

Step Three

Reduce waste from your business.

Step Four

Manage waste properly.

Step Five

Manage the litter around your business.



Significance of Reduced Litter

The Quality of the Local Environment is Important to People:

- How places look and are perceived
- How safe and happy people feel about living in an area
- How attractive areas look to tourists, existing and new business investors, etc.

A Litter Free Environment is Important to:

- Secure quality long-term commercial investors
- Attract good, long-term tenants
- Deter anti-social behaviours
- Maintain the health of the environment

What is the Mission Adopt-A-Block Society?

The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society is a non-profit organization that has been administering a litter control program in the community of Mission since 1995. Mission Adopt-A-Block works to increase community awareness of and participation in litter control efforts. We recruit and support volunteers of all ages to help keep Mission litter free by committing to regular clean-ups of an 'adopted' block, neighborhood, or area. Mission Adopt-A-Block provides litter pick-up equipment and safety guidelines for all those who commit to this volunteer responsibility.



The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society organizes large community cleanups year round, such as our Annual Earth Day and Spring & Fall Clean-Ups. With our support, interested individuals, community groups, schools, clubs, etc. can organize a neighborhood litter clean-ups. We provide the litter pick-up equipment, help pick routes, provide safety information, manage litter bag removal and more, to ensure a successful clean-up.



The Mission Adopt-A-Block provides a free education program to the Mission School District that fosters litter awareness and positive environmental action. Finally, Mission Adopt-A-Block works with concern citizens, community organizations, **businesses** and the District of Mission to help find solutions to Mission's litter problems.

Join our team today!

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Litter Management Practices for Businesses — Limitations & Opportunities

*Businesses themselves do not drop the litter, but that they must take responsibility by playing their part in improving the local area.



*A given business premise can contribute to and is affected by litter on others' land - unmanaged litter and refuse from one land moves (blows or flows) to the land of others.

*Businesses suffer from customers dropping litter & litter degrades the perception of a business and will reduce sales - businesses are in part, responsible for managing this issue.

*The accumulation of litter depends on a number of factors including; pedestrian & vehicular traffic & intensity of activity in an area, natural physical features of the location, time of year, nature and condition of surrounding areas, etc.



*It is good business practice to maintain a clean and tidy property and good management of litter is consistent.

*A litter free ground can not be maintained at all times, and that the presence of a few small items or litter and refuse may occur.

*Businesses can be powerful role models to customers, by setting a strong example by keeping grounds maintained and displaying anti-litter advertisements.



*Litter begets litter and it is in a business' best interest to maintain the cleanliness and tidiness of their grounds.

*If businesses do not manage the disposal of and the storage of their waste properly it will become litter.

*Excessive packaging results in more litter and encourages businesses to find ways to reduce packaging.

*Local agreements are best and enable everyone to play their part in pledging to keep the environment clean and tidy.

*There are different types of businesses that sell "food on the go" and that not all recommendations given to prevent and reduce litter are suitable for each business.



The Code RECOGNIZES four areas of practices to reduce and prevent litter by businesses:

Public Education

Businesses can be powerful role models to customers, by setting a strong example by keeping grounds maintained and displaying anti-litter advertisements.

Litter Management

Litter begets litter and it is in a business' best interest to maintain the cleanliness and tidiness of their grounds.

Proper Waste Handling

If businesses do not manage the disposal of and the storage of their waste properly it will become litter.

Reducing Packaging:

Excessive packaging results in more litter and businesses can save costs and reduce litter, by reducing packaging.



Join Our Team Today!



Join with The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society and the District of Mission by signing up as a local partner under the Voluntary Code of Practices, and pledge litter control practices that your business will take to help reduce and prevent litter in the community.

For more information about the Voluntary Code of Practices request the Guidelines & Information Package, which includes the pledge form — and see how your business can make a difference in a cleaner environment for the benefit of all.



✓ Yes, I am interested in learning more about the Code of Voluntary Practices and how my business can become a partner in litter control in the District of Mission.

Please provide Mission Adopt-A-Block with the following information to receive the society's **Voluntary Code of Practices Information Guide and Pledge Form:**

Business Name:

Manager:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

(**SAVE TREES!**) Email Address: