



**Gabrielle Upton**  
Minister for the Environment

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **THOUSANDS OF TOSSERS GET MILLIONS IN FINES**

A NSW Government litter beating initiative has led to a massive increase in littering fines.

Environment Minister Gabrielle Upton has announced that since the *Report to EPA* campaign started in February 2015, there has been an average of 8,600 fines a year, compared to the 500 issued in 2014.

In the last three years, tossers have been hit with more than \$8.3 million in fines and the NSW EPA has handed out over 29,000 penalty notices to people littering from motor vehicles thanks to increased public reporting," Ms Upton said.

"The figures show the community has had enough of people trashing their streets and the environment, with 84 per cent of the NSW population agreeing litter fines should be issued.

"There are more than 33,000 registered EPA litter reporters out there, so if you get caught littering then you should expect a fine.

"The increase in public reporting is a ringing endorsement of the EPA's *Don't be a Tosser!* campaign and the *Report to EPA* system, which allows people to report littering as it happens.

"The latest EPA research reveals the message is sinking in with 75 per cent of the NSW population aware they will be fined if they are caught throwing litter from their motor vehicle.

The *Tosser!* campaign is one of many EPA programs working towards the NSW Premier's Priority of reducing the volume of litter in NSW by 40 per cent by the year 2020.

"The NSW Government has committed \$50 million in funding from 2012-2021 to reduce litter and littering behaviour through the EPA's *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative, and this shows it's money well spent.

"The funding provides millions of dollars to councils and community groups and builds on NSW's other litter prevention work."

"NSW has achieved a remarkable reduction in litter volume in 2017-18; we are now at 37 per cent litter volume reduction since 2013-14, which is the baseline year for the Premier's Priority of reducing litter by 40 per cent by 2020.

“This has been achieved through all of the NSW Government’s litter initiatives: the *Return and Earn* scheme for drink container refunds, the *Tosser* campaign, EPA litter prevention grants to councils and communities and the *Report to EPA* system

To find out more about the *Don’t be a Tosser!* campaign, visit [www.epa.nsw.gov/dontbeatosser](http://www.epa.nsw.gov/dontbeatosser)

**Penalty Notices issued by the EPA for ‘littering from motor vehicle’.**

<b>Fin Year</b>	<b>Penalties issued</b>	<b>Value of fines</b>	<b>Litter reporters</b>
2013-14	493	\$112,575	0
2014-15	2,677	\$798,250	5,626
2015-16	8,617	\$2,387,200	7,646
2016-17	10,211	\$2,870,950	11,301
2017-18	8,130	\$2,280,250	8,156
14-18 totals	29,635	\$8,336,650	33,333

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