

Ordinance 11--056--CC

Section 1. Grant County Code Section 8.28.190 and all Ordinances amending said section are hereby amended as follows:

“Unsecured Load” means a shipment of solid waste in or on a vehicle that is not covered with a tarp, inside an enclosed vehicle or otherwise secured or tied down by safety chains or other fastening devices in a manner that will prevent materials from spilling, escaping, falling, or being blown or deposited outside the vehicle while the vehicle is in motion. For purposes of this definition, solid waste contained in trash bags that are not covered with a tarp, inside an enclosed vehicle or otherwise secured down is an unsecured load.

Passenger vehicles	\$5.00
Trucks (over 3 yards)	\$15.00

Adopted: 07/12/2011

Good Load



Tie down with rope, bungee cords, netting, or straps. Tie items directly to your vehicle **including large items** like appliances and garbage cans. **Cover**

your load with a sturdy plastic tarp or net. Think about what would happen to your load **if you had to stop suddenly** or swerve. Put **lighter weight things** at the bottom of the load and **don't overload** your truck bed.

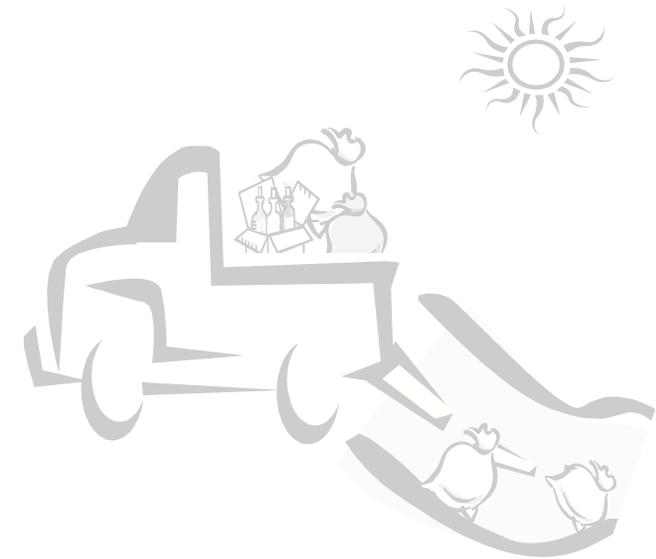
Bad Load

If your load is **NOT** inside a vehicle, covered with a tarp and/or tied down with ropes, straps, or a net, you have an **UNSECURED LOAD**. County employees are required to issue you an unsecured load fine.



Grant County Public Works
Solid Waste Division
124 Enterprise St. SE
Ephrata, WA 98823
Phone: 509-754-6082
Fax: 509-754-6087

Secure Your Load



Unsecured loads create litter and cause accidents and injuries to motorists. Even if you're going a short distance and not driving on the highway, you are **required by law** to secure your load.

Grant County Public Works
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Is your load secure? Here are some questions to ask yourself:

- Is there a chance of debris falling or blowing out of my vehicle?
- Would I feel safe if I were driving behind MY vehicle?
- Would I want MY loaded vehicle driving through my neighborhood?
- What would happen to MY load if I had to brake suddenly or if I hit a bump?
- Do I need to drive slower than I normally do?
- Is MY load secured at the back and on the sides and top?
- Did I double-check MY load to make sure it is secured?

What can you do? Follow these tips for securing your load:

- **Tie Down** —Tie your load with rope, bungee cords, netting or straps. Tie large items directly to your vehicle.
- **Don't Overload** — Keep material level with the truck bed.
- **Lighter Goes Lower** — Put lighter weight things at the bottom of the load.
- **Cover** — Cover your load with a secured tarp or net.
- **Always Double-Check** — Make sure your load is secured.



An Unsecured Load Will Cost You

- As of July 2005, the fine for transporting an unsecured load is \$216. If an item falls off a vehicle and causes bodily harm, the driver now faces gross misdemeanor charges and penalties up to \$5,000 and/or up to a year in prison.
- In Washington State the fine for littering something as small as a piece of paper is \$103 and can go up to \$5,000 for bigger items such as a mattress or piece of furniture.
- In Grant County, the unsecured load fee at our solid waste facilities can be \$5.00 or \$15.00 depending on the capacity of your vehicle.

**Thank you
for covering
your load!**

Secure Your Load For Safer Roads

Across North America, over 25,000 accidents are caused each year by litter that is either purposefully dumped by motorists or that falls out of vehicles with unsecured loads. Nearly 100 of those accidents are fatal.

According to the Washington State Department of Transportation, road debris causes about 350 accidents every year on state highways. Thirty-four percent of the litter-related violations issued by Washington State Patrol in 2003 were for a failure to secure a load. Unsecured loads cause up to twenty-five percent of Washington State's roadside litter.

(Source: www.ci.seattle.wa.us)

