



## **Conditions for Placing Skips on a Public Highway**

When carrying out any type of work which will involve the removal of building material, garden refuse, etc, the use of a skip placed in the highway may be required. When using a skip for this purpose therefore, consideration should be given to the following:

- Location of skip - if on the public highway (road, rear lane or verge) permission will be required.
- The Council has the power to grant permission for depositing a skip in the highway and this can be obtained from the relevant area office. This should be obtained as soon as possible, and must be a **minimum of three working days** before the skip is placed.
- **The licensee is required to supply and maintain public liability insurance cover to the value of £10,000,000 (ten million pounds sterling).**
- Once the permission is obtained, all conditions attached to the licence must be complied with at all times, which will include placing of signing, lighting and guarding during the hours of darkness, etc.
- Most skip hirers can obtain the permission.
- It is an offence to put a skip on the public highway without permission and failure to obtain such permission or failure to comply with the conditions relating to the placement of skips may result in a fine not exceeding £1,000.

Skips should not be placed where they might become a nuisance or a danger to the users of the highway and should not therefore be placed in a location where the free use of the footway is affected.

Skips shall not be placed on any part of the footway. The kerb is often used for guidance by blind or partially sighted people.

For further information regarding the standard conditions required when obtaining permission to place a skip on the public highway, see below:

**The Highways Act 1980 sections 139**

**The Construction (Health Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996**



**The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974  
The Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 8 2006, sections D3.41, O3.26**

**and any other regulatory requirements in force.**

**PERMISSION TO PLACE A BUILDER'S SKIP ON THE HIGHWAY**

- 1) Oxfordshire County Council in exercise of their powers under Section 139 of the Highways Act 1980 and The Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 8 2006
- 2) Each skip shall be deposited on the carriageway outside the premises and shall be positioned so that it does not impede the surface water drainage of the highway nor obstruct access to any manhole or the apparatus of any statutory undertaker or the Oxfordshire County Council.
- 3) Where more than one skip is on the highway at any one time, the skips shall be positioned as closely as possible to each other, but not so as to obstruct access to any premises unless the consent of the occupier of those premises has been obtained.
- 4) No skip shall exceed 5 metres in length or 2 metres in width.
- 5) Each skip or group of skips shall while on the highway be marked and lit in accordance with the following requirements.
  - (a) The ends of each skip (that is to say, the sides of the skip facing traffic in both directions when the skip is positioned as mentioned in Condition 2 above) shall be painted yellow and marked in accordance with the requirements of The Builder's Skips (Markings) Regulations 1984 (Statutory Instrument 1984 No. 1933), including vertical red fluorescent, and yellow reflective markings on each end. The painting and the markings shall at all times be kept clean and efficient and clearly visible for a reasonable distance to persons using the highway on which the skip is placed.
  - (b) Each skip shall be clearly and indelibly marked with the owners name and with his telephone number.
  - (c) Each skip shall be guarded by at least 3 traffic cones placed on the carriageway in an oblique line on the approach side of the skip. Where 2 or more skips are deposited in a row, so that the distance between adjacent skips does not exceed 2 metres, the row shall be guarded as if it were one skip, in accordance with O3.27.4 of the Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 8 2006.

- (d) At night (that is to say, between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise), a danger lamp shall be placed against or attached to each corner of the skip or the end corners of the row of skips where two or more skips are deposited in a row and the distance between adjacent skips does not exceed 2 metres and shall also be placed between each cone and the next. Each lamp shall be of the nature as prescribed on paragraph 40 of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 1981 (Statutory Instrument 1981 No. 859) and shall remain lit through the night.
- 6) No skip, when standing in the highway, shall contain any inflammable, explosive, noxious or dangerous material, or any material which is likely to putrefy, or which otherwise is, or likely to become a nuisance to users of the highway.
- 7) No skip shall be used in such a way that any of its contents fall on to the highway, or that there is an escape of dust from the contents of the skip when standing in the highway.
- 8) Each skip shall be removed for emptying as soon as practicable, and in any case no later than **2 working days after it has been filled**.
- 9) No skip shall remain on the highway after the period of the permission specified in paragraph 1 has expired.
- 10) All materials placed in each skip shall be properly disposed of and the highway where the skip or skips have been deposited shall be left in a clean and tidy condition on the expiration of this permission.
- 11) Where a skip, or skips, have been placed on verges, or cultivated spaces, it is the responsibility of the skip owner to ensure that the surfaces are restored to their original condition.

## TAKE NOTE THAT

- (a) Section 139(1) of the Highways Act, 1980 provides that a builders skip shall not be deposited on a highway without the permission of the relevant highway authority. If a builder's skip is so deposited without the permission of the highway authority, **the owner of the skip shall be guilty of an offence and liable in respect thereof to a fine not exceeding £1000.**
- (b) Section 139(4) of the Highways Act 1980 requires the owner of a builders skip which has been deposited on a highway to secure that the skip is properly lighted during the hours of darkness, that it is clearly and indelibly marked with the owners name and with his telephone number or address, that the skip is removed as soon as practicable after it has been filled and that each of the conditions of the highway authority's permission is properly complied with. If the owner of the skip fails to comply with the aforementioned conditions **he should be guilty of an offence and on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding £1000.**
- (c) Section 139(10) of the Highways Act, 1980 provides that nothing in the Section shall be taken as authorising the creation of a nuisance or of a danger to users of a highway or as imposing on a highway authority by whom injury, damage or loss resulting from the presence on a highway of the skip to which the permission relates.
- (d) Section 140 of the Highways Act, 1980 empowers a highway authority or a Police Officer to require the removal or repositioning a builders skip deposited on a highway, even though it was deposited in accordance with the highway authority's permission, and to recover from the owner the cost of such removal or repositioning, and to dispose of a skip which is not collected by its owner.
- (e) Should an owner fail to comply with a request under Section 140 to remove or reposition a skip **he shall be guilty of an offence and liable in respect thereof to a fine not exceeding £1000.**

## **Acknowledgement and Contact details**

We the undersigned agree to all the conditions as set out in the document '**Conditions for Placing Skips on a Public Highway**' detailed in pages 1-5 above.

Date.....

Signed.....

Print Name.....

Company Name.....

Address.....

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Postcode.....

### **Forms can be obtained from the offices below:**

**Telephone No. 0845 310 11 11    FAX: 0845 600 7384**

Licensing and Streetworks Administration Team  
Oxfordshire            County            Council  
Speedwell            House,  
Speedwell            Street,  
Oxford,  
OX1            1NE

**Forms can be emailed to the**  
**[licencing.streetworksadminteam@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:licencing.streetworksadminteam@oxfordshire.gov.uk)**  
**Any procedural enquiries are also dealt with by the Licensing Team.**