

Secure Your Load

Headed for an Environmental Convenience Center (ECC) or the Solid Waste Management Facility? Make sure all your wastes reach their destination. Remember, flying debris is a danger to other motorists and creates unsightly litter on our roadways. Drivers can be ticketed and fined for **NOT SECURING** their loads. If you are cited for an uncovered load you will have to make a mandatory court appearance and face a fine of up to \$200.00.

F.S. 316.520: No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any highway unless the vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, shifting, leaking, blowing, or otherwise escaping. Covering and securing the load with a close fitting tarpaulin or appropriate cover is required.

Examples of Secured Load



Netting, straps, rope, chain and bungee cords can be used to tie each large item to the vehicle. Since there is nothing in the load that can blow out, a cover is not needed.



The cardboard and the garbage can are secured to the truck with bungee cords. The lid is secured to the bottom of the garbage can.

Examples of Covered and Secured Load



The tarp covers the entire load and is well tied to the vehicle.



The tarp covers the entire load and is well tied to the trailer.

Examples of Inadequately Secured Loads

Tie downs are missing or inadequate. The vehicles are overloaded. Top, sides and back of the loads are not secure. Debris can fall out of a moving vehicle. These loads should be repacked and covered with a tarp and/or a cargo net. Secure the cover to the vehicle bed.



Some Questions to Ask Yourself:

1. Is there any chance of debris falling (or blowing) out of my vehicle?
2. Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?
3. What would happen to my load if I had to brake suddenly or if I hit a bump?
4. Do I need to drive slower than I normally do?
5. Is my load secured on top, on the sides and in back?
6. Did I double-check my load to make sure it is secured?