

WEST VIRGINIA CODE

[Back](#) | [Print](#)

CHAPTER 16. PUBLIC HEALTH.

ARTICLE 9. OFFENSES GENERALLY.

§16-9-1.

Repealed.

Acts, 1996 Reg. Sess., Ch. 89.

**§16-9-2. Throwing or releasing dead animals or offensive substances into waters used for domestic purposes; penalties; jurisdiction; failure to bury or destroy offensive substances after conviction; successive offenses.**

Any person who knowingly and willfully throws, causes to be thrown or releases any dead animal, carcass, or part thereof, garbage, sink or shower waste, organic substance, human or animal excrement, contents of privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or the effluent from any cesspool or nauseous or offensive or poisonous substances into any well, cistern, spring, brook, pond, stream or other body of water which is used for domestic purposes, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than two hundred dollars. None of the provisions contained in this section shall apply to those commercial or industrial wastes which are subject to the regulatory control of the West Virginia division of environmental protection.

Upon conviction of any such offense, the person convicted shall, within twenty-four hours after such conviction, remove and bury or cause to be buried at least three feet under the ground or destroy or cause to be destroyed as otherwise directed by the commissioner of the bureau of public health or his or her duly authorized representative any of such offensive materials which the person so convicted has thrown, released or knowingly permitted to remain in water used for domestic purposes, contrary to the provisions of this section, and his or her failure or refusal to do so is a misdemeanor and a second violation of the provisions of this section. The continued failure or refusal of such convicted person to so bury or destroy such offensive materials is a separate, distinct and additional offense for each successive twenty-four hour period of such failure or refusal. Any person convicted of any offense described in this paragraph shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than two hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail not more than ninety days, or both fined and imprisoned.

**§16-9-3. Depositing dead animals or offensive substances in or near waters or on or near roads or on public or private grounds; penalties; failure to bury or destroy offensive substances after conviction; successive offenses.**

Any person (1) who throws, causes to be thrown or releases any dead animal, carcass, or part thereof, garbage, sink or shower waste, organic substances, contents of a privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or the effluent from any cesspool, spoiled meat or nauseous or offensive or poisonous substances into any river, creek or other stream, or upon the surface of any land adjacent to any river, creek or other stream in such a location that high water or normal drainage conditions will cause such offensive materials to be washed, drained or cast into the river, creek or other stream; or (2) who throws, or causes to be thrown or releases any of such offensive materials upon the surface of any road, right-of-way, street, alley, city or town lot, public ground, market space, common or private land, or (3) who, being the owner, lessee or occupant of any city or town lot, public ground, market space, common or private land knowingly permits any such offensive materials to remain thereon or neglects or refuses to remove or abate the public health menace or nuisance occasioned thereby, within twenty-four hours of the service of notice thereof in writing from the commissioner of the bureau of public health or his or her duly authorized representative, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. None of the provisions contained in this section apply to those commercial or industrial wastes which are subject to the regulatory control of the West Virginia division of environmental protection.

Upon a conviction for any such offense, the person shall, within twenty-four hours after such conviction, remove and bury or cause to be buried at least three feet under the ground, or destroy or cause to be destroyed as otherwise directed by the commissioner of the bureau of public health or his or her duly authorized representative, any of such offensive materials which the person so convicted has placed or knowingly permitted to remain upon such city or town lot, public ground, market space, common or private land, contrary to the provisions of this section. Such person's failure or refusal to do so is a misdemeanor and a second offense against the provisions of this section. The continued failure or refusal of such convicted person to remove and bury or destroy such offensive materials is a separate, distinct and additional offense for each successive twenty-four-hour period of such failure and refusal. Any person convicted of any offense described in this paragraph shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail not more than ninety days, or both fined and imprisoned.

§16-9-4.

Repealed.

Acts, 1987 Reg. Sess., Ch. 119

§16-9-5.

Repealed.

Acts, 1987 Reg. Sess., Ch. 119

§16-9-6.

Repealed.

Acts, 1987 Reg. Sess., Ch. 119.

§16-9-7.

Repealed.

**§16-9-8. Jurisdiction of courts.**

Until the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred seventy-seven, justices of the peace and municipal judges shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit courts of this state for violations under sections one to seven, both inclusive, of this article.

*Note: WV Code updated with legislation passed through the [2012 1st Special Session](#)*

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