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Help Mitigate Monsoon Mess: Don't Trash Arizona!



Earlier this month, Arizona's monsoon was marked by one of the largest dust storms on record. The storm, also considered a haboob, a thick dust storm with violent winds, spanned nearly 100 miles. While a storm this large is a rarity for Maricopa County, dust storms during the monsoon are not.

These storms bring winds that can wreak havoc on loads being transported in vehicles or on loose trash thrown in truck beds, resulting in the ugly litter that ends up on Valley highways or worse, dangerous debris that blocks roadways and can cause accidents. As a result, the Don't Trash Arizona program has made it a mission to ensure that people properly secure loads and reduce littering on state and regional freeways. The following are some ways the program is encouraging folks to reduce litter during the monsoon and all other times of the year.

- Use litterbags in your vehicle. Get one free at <http://donttrashaz.com/highway-littering/sign-up-to-receive-a-free-litter-bag/>
- Secure large loads with straps, ropes or bungee cords.

- Cover up loose loads like lawn clippings with a tarp or net.
- Put lighter-weight items at the bottom, evenly distribute at the bottom of the truck bed.
- Keep material level with truck bed or trailer unless tied down, netted or tarped.
- Double check your load to make sure it is secure at the back, on the sides and the top.

For more information on highway littering, please visit www.DontTrashAZ.com

Source: <http://geoplan.asu.edu/aztc/monsoon.html#winds>

Source: azcentral.com



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