



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 14, 2006**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
MARK MAZZAFERRO (707) 649-5462
LEINA MORRIS, VALLEJO FIRE DEPARTMENT, (707) 648-4564**

CITY WORKING WITH PROPERTY OWNER ON ILLEGAL DUMPING, TRESPASSING

VALLEJO – A variety of city departments are working with the owner of a large piece of property on Admiral Callaghan Way and Turner Parkway to resolve issues of illegal dumping and trespassing.

Along with dumping a variety of items on the private property, such as tires, trash and abandoned vehicles, trespassers were also using the property as a place to drive their four-wheel-drive vehicles, and activity known as “mudding.”

Three drivers were cited recently while “four-wheeling” on the property. During a trip following a heavy rain a Ford pickup became stuck in the mud. Upon calling for help, two friends arrived in two other vehicles. One of the other vehicles, upon pulling the Ford out of the mud, became stuck up to its axles. All of this took place within 2,000 feet of a residential area, a violation of Vallejo Municipal Code 7.90.020.

The Vallejo Police Department has begun citing owners of these vehicles in response to safety concerns for those individuals illegally four wheeling and the neighbors that border this property. At the same time, the Vallejo Fire Department is working with the property owner to remove illegally dumped items and abandoned vehicles as well as install a fence around a major portion of the property.

“We’re talking with the property owner on those issues,” said Leina Morris, Senior Code Enforcement Officer with the Vallejo Fire Department. “We want to get it corrected as soon as possible.”

Along with the costs related to illegal dumping, several brush fires have been set on the property as well. Operating vehicles on private property without the permission of the owner is trespassing. The city is currently monitoring properties that fit this description, and violators will be cited to the fullest extent of the law.

Below are some of the codes related to the operation of vehicles on property within city limits as well as illegal dumping:

7.90.010 Findings of the city council.

The city council finds and declares that numerous motor vehicles have been driven in and upon unimproved lands located within the boundaries of the city causing serious soil erosion of slopes, hills, washes, gullies and ravines in the city.

The city council further finds and declares that the excessive noise and dust emanating from and caused by said motor vehicles being driven upon and operated off the public roads and upon the unimproved lands within the city has tended to and does create a public nuisance by disturbing the quiet and repose of the citizens of Vallejo so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

7.90.020 Operation prohibited.

No person shall operate a motor vehicle, including a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, as such are defined in the California Vehicle Code, closer than two thousand feet from the nearest dwelling, except as provided in this chapter.

7.60.170 Litter on vacant lots.

No person shall throw or deposit litter on any open or vacant private property within the city.



