



Secure Your Loads for Safety: It's the Law!

Driving with an unsecured load is against Colorado State Law (Colorado Revised Statute C.R.S. 42-4-1407 – 2014, Article 1: No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any highway unless such vehicle is constructed or loaded or the load thereof securely covered to prevent any of its load from blowing, dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping therefrom.) In addition, anyone found violating this law on roads is subject to a traffic offense ticket by law enforcement officers. This applies from point of origin to the gates at the Landfill.

What is an unsecured load?

An unsecured load is one that has not been fastened in or attached to the vehicle with tarps, rope, straps, netting, or chains, so as to prevent any part of the load, no matter what the material, or the covering from becoming loose, detached, or leaving the vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

What is a secured load?

A load is secure when nothing can slide, shift, fall, or sift onto the roadway, or become airborne.

Cover your load with a tarp and securely fasten the tarp to the vehicle.

Tie down using rope, netting, straps or chains and attached to your vehicle.

Put lighter items lower and heavier items on top and secure heavy items to your vehicle.

Don't overload your vehicle.

Double-check that your load is secure.

What happens at the Landfill when your load is not secured?

The Larimer County Solid Waste Department charges double rates to drivers of vehicles with unsecured loads arriving at the Larimer County Landfill. Vehicle-related road debris creates safety hazards for other drivers, as well as litter on roads both outside and inside the Landfill boundaries. *If drivers are observed covering loads just prior to entering the Landfill property, the double rate will also be charged.*

“But I’m just going a short way and I won’t be driving fast.” Even if you are driving slowly for a short distance you are still required to secure your load. It’s the law.

“But what I’m hauling is so heavy it couldn’t possibly fall out.” Every year, heavy items such as large truck tires, tree limbs and other large pieces of wood fall from vehicles and create hazards for other motorists. These items must be secured per law.

“But my load is below the top of the truck bed.” Even with a small load, items can shift and become loose or airborne. Don’t take the risk.

Ask yourself:

- Is there any chance of debris or material falling or blowing out of my vehicle?
- Is my load secured at the sides, top, and back?
- What would happen to my load if I had to brake suddenly or if I hit a bump?
- Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?

Why should you secure your load? It prevents injuries and saves lives, it prevents litter, it will cost you money if you don’t and, **IT’S THE LAW!**



Incorrect and unsafe way of securing loads (above); items may fly out of or drop off of loads with the potential to strike other vehicles and cause litter on roads or injury to other drivers.



The safest way to secure your load; low in the vehicle, covered with a tarp; tied down and attached to the vehicle.