Truck drivers are responsible for delivering their goods safely and on time. A critical part of safe transportation is securing loads to prevent them from falling onto the road. Truck drivers also have a responsibility to keep highways clean by disposing of their trash properly. Road litter or debris is classified as anything that doesn’t belong on a highway. It makes Utah look dirty, it’s dangerous and potentially lethal.

UDOT’s maintenance crews spend around $2 million annually to keep highways clean of trash. Utah Highway Patrol officers risk their lives trying to clear debris that has fallen onto highways due to unsecured or improperly secured loads.

Litter and debris become deadly when drivers encounter objects on the road and swerve to miss them or when items are kicked up by one vehicle and thrown into the windshield of another.

**USECURED CARGO CAN COST YOU**

In one year, UDOT collected enough debris and litter to cover a football field 45 FEET DEEP.

Did you know that tossing out a “urine jug” creates a biohazard and could earn you A HEFTY FINE?

Did you know that, on average, UDOT hauls 3,000 TONS of litter from state roads to landfills each year?

In Utah, an average of 500 CRASHES happen every year due to trash and debris on the road.

**FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO SECURE LOADS**

- Block and brace your load properly to prevent shifting during transport.
- Use the proper type of tie-downs and make sure they are anchored securely.
- Cover all loose items and secure the cover so the items won’t fly out.
- Keep items below the top edge of the trailer.
- After traveling a short distance, stop and check to make sure everything is secure.

Know the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) for the specific type of cargo you’re carrying.

**SECURE YOUR SHIPMENT**

When transporting a load, it is vital to take the time to properly secure your cargo—don’t assume gravity will simply hold it in place. Federal and state laws require drivers of commercial and private vehicles to load and secure their cargo so it does not shift or fall off the vehicle.

Fines for littering have increased to $250 per violation and can be as high as $500 for repeat litter violators. Drivers who fail to secure their loads properly can be fined between $500 and $1,000 per violation.