

Recycle Saline officer sets career high in '17

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Shane Knight, Recycle Saline's illegal dumps control officer, nearly doubled his previous record from 2016 by disposing of 102,581 pounds of illegally dumped materials in 2017.

Knight's previous record was 54,565 pounds.

According to Tiffany Dunn, director for Recycle Saline, Knight operates one of the leading IDCOs in Arkansas and the Recycle Saline program has



Knight

become one of the top in the state. Knight teaches certification and training courses for other IDCOs through the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy in Camden.

Dunn said Knight has been in his role since 2013. She believes he has been able to collect so many dumped materials because of the efforts to educate the community and encouraging people to report illegal dumping by calling 501-778-2222 or visiting www.recyclesaline.org. Reports are anonymous.

Illegally dumped material includes household waste, tires, furniture, appliances and household hazardous waste.

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Knight works with city and county environmental offices and code enforcement officials to provide assistance as needed. He mostly patrols rural areas that don't have code enforcement. He enforces title 8 and state statues pertaining to the solid waste and litter control acts.

Dunn said it is important for

everyone to keep the environment clean.

In the next year, Knight will continue to patrol and step up education efforts in Saline County schools.

Dunn said while Knight does write tickets, his goal is to educate the public about proper disposal.

In the course of his duties, Knight investigates dump sites. Dunn said he usually is able to find a name of the person responsible for the

dumping. He then gives the person time to clean it up. The person responsible must show a landfill receipt to prove it was cleaned up at the site.

Dunn pointed out that it saves both time and money just to dispose of materials correctly. Recycle Saline has landfill coupons available. To obtain coupons, a person must show a current trash bill, identification matching the address on the bill and \$10 for two landfill coupons.