

Tips on Using Illegal Dumping Surveillance Cameras

Placement

TIP:

For general surveillance the manufacturer recommends putting the SC950 camera at chest height. However, if you are concerned that it will be seen during daylight hours you can place it higher and angle it down. People don't often look up. Note that the higher you place the camera the shorter you make the activation distance and infrared ability.

TIP:

For best capturing license plates the manufacturer recommends placing the SM750 5-10 feet away from the road and about 24-30 inches off the ground. It should be at a 30° angle to the road.

TIP:

Always use the "Walktest" mode (page 20 of the manual) after setting up your cameras to make sure they are aimed correctly. For the license plate camera, SM750, you should also drive by at various speeds to test the aim.

TIP:

Make sure that when you place the camera you don't have it facing out over an open field. Because the camera reads a difference in temperature there needs to be a good backdrop, such as trees, a fence, or tall grass, to get a clear picture at night.

TIP:

In order for the camera to activate the object in the line of site must move into or out of at least one motion detection zone. The camera's range of view is divided into six of these zones. Movement directly toward and away from the camera is less likely to trigger the camera than movement from one side to the other.

TIP:

Don't place the camera in a location where it will receive direct sunlight as high temperatures can affect image clarity.

TIP:

You may think that you should conceal the camera behind twigs or leaves, but this is not the case. If you do the camera will take pictures every time the wind blows the twigs and leaves

TIP:

If there is a busy road in the line of sight of the SC950 camera you may want to weaken the sensor on the camera so that you don't get pictures of every car that drives by.

TIP:

In more remote locations you can place the license plate cameras (SM750) across the street from where you expect the illegal dumping to occur. The SC950 camera however should be placed on the same side of the street as where you expect the dumping to occur as you don't want a vehicle to block the action. Do keep in mind that the camera may not activate if the distance is greater than 30 feet.

TIP:

If you will be placing the camera on any kind of utility pole you will need to notify the company responsible for the pole of your intent and get their permission. Otherwise the camera will be removed.

Troubleshooting

TIP:

If your memory card does not seem to work in the camera you may need to reformat it. Follow the instructions on page 10 of the user manual to correct this issue.

TIP:

When daytime temperatures rise to about 90 °F or above the life on a NiMH battery is cut by around 50%. It will be important to change the batteries more often to ensure adequate illumination at night.

TIP:

Moving the camera between hot and cold temperatures may cause condensation to form internally and externally. To address this it may be helpful to place the camera in a Ziploc bag before moving it. Leave the camera in the bag until it has had time to adjust.

Theft Prevention

TIP:

When installing the cameras always use the box, cable, and lock provided.

TIP:

The longer the lag bolt the more difficult it is for the camera to be forcibly removed if discovered. It is also recommended that you use as many lag bolts as possible when mounting the camera.

TIP:

Discus locks are harder to cut with bolt cutters than the standard padlock.

Battery Replacement

TIP:

Cameras placed in remote locations will require fewer battery changes than those in more urban areas where it may be necessary to replace batteries twice a week.

Storing Files for Court

TIP:

Save all files to a folder where the pictures will not be manipulated. If you need to alter photos make a copy and save them somewhere else before making any edits.