

Action Alert

October 2007

Help Use Baltimore's New Eviction Law to KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN!

As many of you know, Reservoir Hill Improvement Council supported a campaign to pass a bill called the Clean Streets Bill. For many years it has been the accepted practice in Baltimore that, following an eviction, landlords could dump any tenant items left behind in the street for removal by the City. In August, the City Council unanimously passed Council Bill 07-0665, sponsored by Councilman Kenneth N. Harris, Sr. and many other council members, to establish a new eviction procedure, and Mayor Sheila Dixon signed it into law.

Effective October 1, 2007, eviction dumping became a criminal misdemeanor and punishable by up to a \$1,000 fine upon conviction.

If you see illegal eviction dumping:

- **CALL 311** and report the dumping. The City will investigate and move to fine the landlord. The Department of Public Works will clean up the dumping after the investigation. Fines will deter future dumping!
- **You can write down the "service request number"** the 311 operator gives you. That will enable you to call back to follow up on the status of your report.