Does your community have scrap tires littering Missouri’s landscapes and countrysides?

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources can reimburse fraternal, charitable or other nonprofit organizations for disposal costs of scrap tires collected during voluntary cleanups of land and water resources.

For each tire collected and taken to a legal recycler, end-user or processor, the group will be reimbursed up to the actual cost of disposal or two dollars per tire, whichever is less. The reimbursement can only apply to scrap tires collected during voluntary cleanups of land and water resources. Other wastes are not eligible for reimbursement. Reimbursement funds are available subject to certain conditions.

Nonprofit organizations wishing to use these funds must obtain prior authorization. This can be accomplished by completing the Non-Profit Scrap Tire Cleanup and Disposal form (MO 780-1997) at: dnr.mo.gov/forms/780-1997-f.pdf. The completed form may be faxed to 573-526-3902 or mailed to:

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Solid Waste Management Program
Scrap Tire Unit
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

A copy of the group’s current registration with the Office of the Secretary of State should also be included with the reimbursement request.

Upon approval, the department will notify the group by sending a copy of the signed reimbursement request back to the group.

Tire collections that occur prior to receiving approval may not be eligible for reimbursement. Groups are strongly encouraged to take collected tires to scrap tire processors or end users for recycling or resource recovery. Tires can be landfilled, but only if they have been properly cut, chipped or shredded prior to disposal.

Groups are encouraged to arrange for proper disposal of the tires before collecting them. Groups are also encouraged to contact the office located in their region for assistance in locating a place to deliver scrap tires (dnr.mo.gov/regions/).

The Nonprofit Group Scrap Tire Cleanup is funded from the state’s 50-cent-per-tire scrap tire fee collected by retailers when every new tire is purchased in Missouri.

When scrap tires are not disposed of or recycled properly, they pose serious threats to human health and the environment. Insects and other nuisance vectors that grow and breed in these dumps can transmit diseases, such as the West Nile and Zika viruses. Fires at tire dumps can release hazardous substances into the air, land and water and can burn for months or even years.

When Missourians dispose of or recycle scrap tires properly, they can provide several beneficial uses, including an alternate source of fuel for power plants, rubberized asphalt, playgrounds, running tracks, walking trails and other recycled rubber products.

For more information, contact the department’s Solid Waste Management Program at 800-361-4827 or visit: dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirecost.htm.