



THE JOB IS NOT FINISHED

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates one scrap tire per person is generated each year in Missouri. Based on Missouri's 2010 Census population results, approximately six million scrap tires are generated in the state every year. Since 1990 when the scrap tire fee was created, funds generated by the fee have been used to rid the state of unsightly and dangerous illegal scrap tire dumps. To date, more than 17 million tires have been cleaned up.

	DUMPS CLEANED UP	SCRAP TIRES CLEANED UP
2007	49	1,297,185
2008	62	492,625
2009	82	396,778
2010	74	457,745
2011	56	314,541
2012	86	294,863
2013	71	340,646
2014	66	310,416
2015	64	176,448
2016	15	104,834
2017	5	70,784

The purpose of the Solid Waste Management Program is to ensure solid waste is managed in a way that protects both public health and the environment.

MISSOURI



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MISSOURI SCRAP TIRE FEE



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Solid Waste Management Program





THE DANGERS CREATED BY ILLEGALLY DUMPED SCRAP TIRES

Scrap tires are a dangerous fire hazard and a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Some mosquitoes may carry the West Nile virus, Zika virus or other mosquito-borne illnesses.

Fires from scrap tires release hazardous substances into the air. When the oil leaches from the tires, it can seep into groundwater sources contaminating drinking water, creating environmental problems, and leaving tremendous scarring on the land. Once a scrap tire pile begins to burn, it can smolder for months and is extremely difficult to extinguish.

On March 11, 2005, an illegal tire dump in Polk County containing an estimated 750,000 tires blazed for several months in an abandoned quarry near Bolivar. Nineteen area fire departments, mostly volunteers, battled the blaze for days before deciding to let the fire burn out by itself. The fire burned so intensely, the heat destroyed some equipment and hoses used by the firefighters.

ELIMINATING ILLEGAL DUMPING

Department staff enforces laws that regulate the handling, storage and disposal of scrap tires. Tire businesses licensed by the state are held to strict standards to ensure the scrap tires are recycled or disposed of at legal destinations to avoid illegal dumping. One standard provided by Missouri regulations is that records of tire collection centers or retailers and permitted haulers and processors are reviewed on a regular basis.

Tire industry representatives are working with the department to help discover illegal disposal activities. Based on past data, the department anticipates approximately 250,000 scrap tires per year will continue to be dumped illegally and require ongoing cleanup efforts. Non-profit groups can voluntarily

cleanup land and water resources, and apply for the department to reimburse the group for the disposal costs of scrap tires.

The cost of cleaning up dumps will only increase. By preventing new tire dumps, efforts can be directed toward promoting existing markets and developing innovative end-uses for scrap tires.

RETIREMENT DESTINATIONS

Tires can be recycled rather than illegally dumped or placed in a landfill. There are many ways tires can be used when they are discarded.

Up to 45 percent of the scrap tire fee is used annually for scrap tire material grants and other market development activities. Recycled rubber can be used as cushioning on playgrounds, running tracks and athletic fields, reducing the number and severity of injuries. Playground surfacing can include mats and custom pour-in-place tire material. Virtually hundreds of products can be made from the rubber in scrap tires, such as rubber modified asphalt, mulch, picnic tables and livestock mats, just to name some.

The scrap tire fee also is used to research new end-uses of scrap tires. The Missouri University of Science and Technology received grants for two projects – using recycled rubber from scrap tires in chip seal highway paving applications and in the creation of masonry building blocks. The success of these two projects could mean millions of tons of scrap tires being diverted from landfills.

HISTORY OF SCRAP TIRE FEE

The Missouri legislature established the scrap tire fee in 1990 because of the widespread piles of illegal tires throughout Missouri. The scrap tire fee expired Jan. 1, 2004. As a result, the department eliminated its inspection and enforcement activities. Two large tire fires subsequently occurred in the state. In 2005, the legislature reinstated the scrap tire fee, which became effective again on Aug. 28, 2005.

After reinstatement, fee collection began on Oct. 1, 2005. Without inspection and enforcement during this nearly two-year period, the department estimates nearly half a million tires were dumped illegally.

The fee is set to expire again on Jan. 1, 2020, unless it is extended by the state legislature. Missouri's current fee is 50 cents per tire, which is the second lowest fee in the country. Fees range from 25 cents per tire to \$3 per tire in some states.

