Scrap Tire Stockpiles and Landfills

- Scrap tire stockpiles may become breeding sites for mosquitoes and home to other pests. They are a potential fire hazard and can contaminate surface water runoff.
- In March 1990, North Carolina banned scrap tires from disposal in landfills.
- Scrap tires disposed of in landfills will not decompose for many years and tend to rise through the landfill to the surface damaging the protective cover.

To Help Prevent Pollution

- Encourage customers to maintain proper air pressure in tires, to periodically rotate and balance tires, and to periodically check front end alignment.
- Prevent unnecessary tire changeouts. Educate employees and customers as to the techniques for determining the reasons tires should be replaced.
- Seek opportunities to reuse or retread discarded tires.
- Recycle scrap tires. Whole scrap tires can be used for retaining walls, dock buffers, or playground equipment. Tires can be processed for door and gymnasium mats or used for erosion control.
- Counties may accept scrap tires from other counties but not from out of state.

The Wrong Things to Do

- Do not commingle whole scrap tires with regular waste that will be landfilled.
- Do not illegally dump scrap tires.
- Do not stockpile scrap tires long enough for mosquitoes to breed.
- Do not give scrap tires back to car owners unless requested. While this practice is not illegal, the scrap tires could be wrongfully disposed.

Hauling Scrap Tires

- Use only a registered scrap tire hauler to transport your tires to scrap tire collection sites and/or scrap tire processors and retread companies.
- If you use a hauler to pick up your scrap tires, you must complete a Scrap Tire Certification Form (attached). Call the scrap tire collection site to verify arrival of your scrap tires.
- If you haul your own scrap tires, take them to scrap tire collection sites permitted by the state. Each county in North Carolina is required to have at least one scrap tire collection site, and there are several processing plants that have permits to operate.

Applicable Laws

- Since October 1993, North Carolina has imposed a 2-percent tax on all tires sold with a bead diameter of less than 20 inches and a 1-percent tax on tires with a bead diameter of 20 inches or greater.
- All persons involved in the disposal of scrap tires must complete and sign a Scrap Tire Certification Form, which is accessible on our website or available at the local landfill.
  1. Part I is filled out by the person who has generated the scrap tires.
  2. Part II is filled out by the certified hauler or retailer.
  3. Part III is filled out and retained by the receiver of the scrap tires.
- No person shall discard, deposit, or dispose of a scrap tire except at a site or facility permitted to receive scrap tires. It is the legal responsibility of the scrap tire generator to ensure that a certified hauler or a retailer disposes of the scrap tires at a permitted facility. The facility should be specified when the generator fills out Part I of the Scrap Tire Certification Form.
  Prevention of a nuisance: A maximum of 500 scrap tires may be stored on the premises of a retail business where tires are sold and/or removed.
- When scrap tires are hauled from the generator, count the number of scrap tires and enter that number under Part I of the Scrap Tire Certification Form. Do not leave the number blank as additional scrap tires could be added to your load and disposed of under your name.
- Commercial scrap tire haulers must be registered by the Division of Waste Management - Solid Waste Section and obtain a hauler's ID Number.
- Tire retailers who haul only their scrap tires generated in the normal course of business are not required to obtain a hauler's permit. The retailer’s state sales tax number serves as the ID number.
- Visit our website for more information: https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/solid-waste-section