



## Focus on

# Business Guide to Waste Tires

### Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program

This focus sheet explains proper handling of waste tires in the State of Washington. It will be useful to tire retailers, retreaders, salvage yard dealers, transportation companies, storage sites, and other waste tire generators.

## What you need to do if you sell tires.

- Collect a \$1 fee for each new replacement vehicle tire you sell (until June 30, 2010).  
Note: The tire fee doesn't apply to the sale of retreaded or used tires.
- Report the number of tires you sold and submit the fees you collected to the Department of Revenue. The Department of Revenue will deposit the fees into the Waste Tire Removal Account. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) will use this account to carry out the tire program.
- Use only licensed waste tire transporters to remove waste tires from your business.

## What you need to do if you haul waste tires.

### Businesses that transport more than five waste tires must:

- Register as a business in the State of Washington and comply with all state laws, rules, and local ordinances.
- Get a waste tire carrier license at: <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/wastetirecarrier.html>
- Pay a \$250 license fee for each location where the tire transporter business operates and a \$50 fee for each vehicle.
- Annually renew the waste tire carrier license.
- Post a \$10,000 bond in favor of the State of Washington.
- Deliver waste tires to licensed storage, disposal, or processing facilities.

### You don't need waste tire transporter licenses for:

- Tire retailers using company-owned vehicles to transport waste tires for recycling or retreading.
- Transport of used tires to a retail outlet for repair or exchange.
- Solid waste collection companies (RCW 81.77), go to <http://www.wutc.wa.gov/solidwaste> and click on 'List of current carriers.'
- Hauling waste tires under contract with local, state, or federal government.

## What you need to do if you store waste tires.

### You need a storage license and solid waste permit for storing:

- More than 800 waste automobile tires; or
- The combined weight equivalent of 16,000 pounds of all types of waste tires.

### Waste tire storage businesses must:

- Register as a business in the State of Washington and comply with all state laws, rules, and local ordinances.
- Obtain a solid waste handling permit from the local health department.
- Get a waste tire storage license at: <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/wastetirestorageowner.html>
- Pay a \$250 license fee for each storage location.
- Annually renew the waste tire storage license.
- Provide financial assurance in an amount that will cover the cost of cleanup of all stored waste tires. The amount must cover hiring a third party to remove the maximum number of tires permitted to be stored at the site, and it must cover delivery of the tires to a facility permitted to accept tires.
- Report annually to the local health department and Ecology the amount of tires accepted, the amount removed (and what end use they will serve), and the amount stored. This report is due on April 1 of each year and is located at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/ecy040168.pdf>

### You don't need a waste tire storage license for:

- Waste tires stored inside a building or in mobile containers. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 231D regulates indoor tire storage. Contact your local fire official or the state fire marshal's office for details.
- Storage of fewer than 801 waste automobile tires (or less than the combined weight equivalent of 16,000 pounds of all types of waste tires).

## What are the waste tire storage site requirements?

- The International Fire Code Chapter 25, NFPA Standard 231D, and WAC 173-350-350 regulate outdoor waste tire storage.
- Prepare a plan of operations to describe how you will handle the waste tires on your site.
- Prepare a safety, fire, and emergency plan for the site.
- Keep daily records of the number, volume, or weight of tires you received or removed from the site.
- Individual waste tire piles must have:
  - Maximum area of 5,000 square feet.
  - Maximum volume of 50,000 cubic feet.
  - Maximum height of 10 feet.

- Minimum clear space of 40 feet between piles.
- Minimum tire storage distance of 10 feet from the property line.
- Maximum height of 6 feet if within 20 feet of a building or the property line.

## **What happens to the collected tire fee?**

Ecology can use the money in this fund for:

- A study of existing tire cleanup sites in Washington. You can find the completed 2005 report at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0507043.html>.
- The cleanup of unauthorized waste tire piles.
- Measures to prevent future unauthorized waste tire piles.
- Education programs and informational materials for retail tire businesses.

## **There are penalties for hauling or storing tires without a license.**

- Disposing of waste vehicle tires on public or private property can result in a \$200 to \$2,000 civil penalty for each offense (RCW 70.95.500).
- Transporting or storing waste tires without a valid Waste Tire Carrier License or Waste Tire Storage License is a gross misdemeanor (RCW 70.95.555). The penalty for a gross misdemeanor could include up to one year in jail, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both (RCW 9A.20.021 (2)).
- The person transporting waste tires without a license is liable for the costs of cleanup of any and all waste tires transported (RCW 70.95.555 (2)).

## **For more information contact:**

- Kara Steward at 360-407-6250 or [kste461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:kste461@ecy.wa.gov)
- Ecology Waste Tire homepage at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/tires/>

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*If you require special accommodations or need this document in an alternate format, please contact the Solid Waste & Financial Assistance Program at (360) 407-6900. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.*