# Tires

## **Potential Environmental Impacts**

Scrap (waste) tires pose a threat to public health and the environment when improperly managed. If stockpiled, they provide breeding grounds for mosquitoes and vermin. Although tires by themselves are not hazardous, fires in tire piles are very hard to extinguish and produce both toxic smoke and runoff.



Improper storage of scrap tires

#### **Legal Requirements**

- ♦ Scrap tires are defined "special waste" [RCSA Section 22a-209-1] as opposed to municipal solid waste because they require special handling. Connecticut no longer permits the landfilling of scrap tires, either whole or in pieces. Most scrap tires in Connecticut are burned to create energy at the tire-to-energy facility in Sterling. Also there are volume reduction facilities that process tires.
- ♦ If you store more than 10 cubic yards of scrap tires (approximately 100 passenger car tires), you are required to obtain a solid waste permit. [RCSA Section 22a-208a]

For more information, visit the DEEP's web page about <u>recycling and disposal of scrap tires</u> or call DEEP's Recycling Program at 860-424-3366.

## **Legal References**

- Solid Waste Permit Fees RCSA Section 22a-208a
- Definitions RCSA Section 22a-209-1

#### **Best Management Practices**

- ★ Store as few tires as possible at your facility. Make sure your tires are hauled away on a regular basis.
- \* Keep tires stored indoors, or keep tire piles covered in order to prevent entrapment of water.
- ★ Be sure tire piles are accessible to fire and emergency vehicles.

#### **Pollution Prevention Checklist**

- ✓ Do you store your scrap tires indoors or under cover?
- ✓ Do you use lead free wheel weights?
  - ★ Several states have laws banning lead wheel weights, see <u>18373-LeadLawsPenalties-2018.indd</u> (perfectequipment.com).
  - ★ Industry professionals recommend dealers in remaining states switch to lead-free weights even though they are not yet legally required to do so. Benefits boosting their shops' reputations by promoting a "green" initiative and avoiding having to scrap existing lead inventory when the transition eventually is required.



#### Did You Know?

Retreads contain 75% recycled rubber compared to new tires, which contain no more than 2% recycled content.

**<u>DISCLAIMER</u>**: This guidance is a tool to help you evaluate compliance at your facility. It is not a complete list of all regulations and requirements that may apply to your business. You are responsible for knowing and complying with all updated applicable state, federal, local and tribal requirements. Please be aware that environmental laws and regulations, as well as process technology may have changed significantly since these were published. Please do not rely on them for current information, but rather to provide background information.

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Office of Pollution Prevention, 860-424-3297. Published 2014, Links updated January 2023 <u>Vehicle Repair and Body Shops P2 Fact Sheet Index</u>