

## Fast facts:

- Six million waste tires are generated each year in Colorado.
  - On average, each person in Colorado generates one waste tire per year.
- Waste tires get a second life through a variety of recycling uses, including:



Tire-derived fuel



Molded products



Crumb rubber



Civil engineering



## Action steps:

- Do not let waste tires sit around your home—they give mosquitos prime breeding grounds and are a fire risk.
- To report suspected illegal waste tire disposal sites, visit our website at [www.colorado.gov/wastetires](http://www.colorado.gov/wastetires) to fill out a complaint form.
- Contact your local landfill or tire retail shop to take your old tires (a disposal fee may apply).



### COLORADO

Hazardous Materials  
& Waste Management Division

Department of Public Health & Environment

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
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E-mail: [cdphe.hmwastetires@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe.hmwastetires@state.co.us)

### Division mission

To improve the quality of the environment and public health for the citizens of Colorado by continuously improving our efforts to ensure proper management of hazardous materials and waste

# WASTE

How Colorado manages  
millions of waste tires  
every year

# TIRES



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## What is a waste tire?

The term **waste tire** refers specifically to a tire no longer suitable for use as a vehicle tire, usually due to wear or damage. It is:

- No longer being used as a tire.
- Not usable on a vehicle.
- Not mounted.
- Not processed into a tire-derived product.



## Why do we manage waste tires?

Waste tires are fire hazards. Waste tire fires are very hot, cannot be extinguished easily and can last for weeks or months. During combustion, chemicals in the tires can be released into the soil and air.

Abandoned tires can also collect rainwater, creating ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Hundreds of mosquito larvae can hatch in just one tire.

## What is the Waste Tire Fee and how is it used?



For nearly a decade, a Waste Tire Fee has been imposed on consumers purchasing new motor vehicle or trailer tires in Colorado.

With the result of recent legislation, as of January 1, 2020, the fee increased from \$0.55 to \$1.25 for each new tire sold.

With the passage of Senate Bill 19-198, this fee change will fund the revised End Users Fund Rebate Program, market development for waste tire products, eligible waste tire dump clean-up activities, and will maintain current staffing levels for the state Waste Tire Program which handles oversight and enforcement of waste tire facilities.

Without this oversight, waste tires and associated vectors can increase fire risks and can be harmful to both public health and the environment.



## Where can I take unwanted tires?

Most landfills or tire retail shops will accept old tires for a small disposal fee—usually \$5 per tire or less.

Contact the landfill or retail tire shop before bringing your tires to ensure acceptance.



## How are waste tires managed in the United States?

According to the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association, in 2017 over 81 percent of waste tires were recycled in the United States.

Tire-derived fuel accounted for 43 percent of recycled tires. Over 25 percent of waste tires were used as ground rubber and almost 8 percent were used in civil engineering.

**for more information contact:**  
 Lisa Jeffrey - (303) 692-3437  
 cdphe\_wastetirefees@state.co.us

## How can I report illegal waste tire piles?

Fill out the **Waste tire complaint form at:**  
[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wastetires](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wastetires)  
 or call 303-692-3320

You can also contact your local code enforcement or health department.

**If you have any questions regarding waste tires or the fee increase, please contact:**

- Shana Baker (303) 692-3305
- Brian Gaboriau (cleanup grants) (303) 692-2097
- Anna Maylett (303) 692-3459
- Cindy Smith (303) 692-3409



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