

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SCRAP TIRE ABATEMENT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is committed to cleaning up scrap tires around the state and encourages local governments to assist in this goal. The Division offers a scrap tire reimbursement program to counties, cities, and solid waste management authorities funded by the Solid Waste Trust Fund. This fund will cover the costs of abatement, transportation, and processing of scrap tires that have been removed from identified, state-listed scrap tire dumps. To add a site in your area to this list, please complete and submit the Scrap Tire Dump Reporting Form at epd.georgia.gov/scrap-tires. To apply for reimbursement, complete the Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Application at epd.georgia.gov/scrap-tires.

Projects will be funded first come, first served, contingent on funding availability and demand. Submission of a completed application does not guarantee that a project will be selected for reimbursement.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be a local government (county, city or solid waste authority);
- Scrap tire site(s) must be located in Georgia;
- Permitted tire carriers and permitted/approved processors must be used for the scrap tire abatement activities;
- Appropriate and necessary safety measures (e.g., personal protective equipment) must be employed at all times during scrap tire abatement activities.

Activities Eligible for Reimbursement

- Abatement of scrap tire dumps where (1) the property owner is either financially unable to clean up the tires, (2) the property owner is unknown, or (3) the local government has determined that the property owner is a victim of illegal dumping.

General Funding Guidelines

Funding for the Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Program is provided by the Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) and is based on the availability of funds. Applicants must comply with all applicable procurement and purchasing regulations established pursuant to state law.

Eligible Costs

Eligible costs consist of expenses directly related to the approved scrap tire abatement project. Please note that all expenditures must be included in the approved budget. Eligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- The cost of accessing and loading scrap tires;
- The cost of transporting scrap tires by a permitted tire carrier to a permitted processor;
- The cost of processing scrap tires at a permitted scrap tire processor;
- Purchases of equipment/supplies essential to completing the scrap tire abatement project, such as personal protective gear (does not include heavy equipment or large power tools).

Ineligible Costs

Ineligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- Overhead expenses (e.g., costs for accounting/budget/finance staff, rental/lease of space, utilities, copying, office supplies);
- Purchase of non-essential equipment and items unrelated to the scrap tire abatement project;
- Fines or penalties due to violation of federal, state or local laws, ordinances or regulations;
- Purchase of items that would violate the gratuities clause of the state constitution;
- Costs associated with the cleanup of items other than tires (e.g., e-waste, construction/demolition debris, white goods, solid waste).

Guidelines for Submitting Applications

Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis. Once the application has been received, EPD will review and discuss any changes that might be needed with the applicant. When approved, EPD will send a **contractual agreement** to the local government authority. The project is approved for implementation once the local government receives a fully executed copy of the agreement. ***Important Note: Any work related to the scrap tire abatement project performed prior to the execution of the agreement and prior to the applicant receiving written notice from EPD to proceed may not be eligible for reimbursement.***

Applications may be denied based on the following:

- Abatement of scrap tire dumps is proposed to occur where enforcement action has not yet been taken by the local government to compel the party or parties responsible to clean up the site;
- Abatement of scrap tires is proposed to occur at businesses operating in the community (e.g., tire retailers, commercial trucking companies, fleet operators, etc.), unless it is determined through an enforcement action that the property owner is unable to clean up the tires;
- Inclusion of administrative costs to be incurred by the local government in providing oversight of the scrap tire abatement project(s);
- The applicant does not possess the required local, state, or federal permits necessary to conduct the proposed activity;
- The applicant is in violation of environmental laws, regulations, or permits;
- The applicant deliberately provided false information in order to obtain the scrap tire abatement reimbursement funds;
- The scrap tire abatement reimbursement application does not meet the criteria;
- Insufficient funding available from the Solid Waste Trust Fund.

Reimbursement Process and Requirements

All funding will be provided based on the reimbursement of actual costs. Local governments are responsible for maintaining and providing documentation of costs incurred. The local government agrees to submit a request for reimbursement to EPD within **30 days** of project completion that includes:

- Digital images (taken before, during and after cleanup); images must be at least 300 dpi, no larger than 5 MB, and be in one of the following formats: JPG, PNG, TIF;
- Number and/or tons of tires removed by type (passenger, truck, other);
- Itemized list of expenses;
- Description of any problems encountered and how they were handled;
- Number of volunteers participating (if applicable);
- Names and permit numbers of carriers and processors used if different from those in the application;
- Copies of all itemized contractor invoices;
- Copies of all checks showing the amount paid to each contractor;
- Copies of all transportation manifests and weight tickets;
- Official reimbursement request (invoice or letter) from the authorized local government representative that includes the certification statement, "I certify that all abatement activities required in the agreed upon contract and any amendments thereto contracts for this project have been carried out in accordance with the documented application, as well as all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly violating these and/or submitting false information, including fines, loss of certification or licensure, and imprisonment."

Send request for reimbursement and supporting documents to: Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Land Protection Branch, Attn: Andrine Stanhope, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, GA 30354.