Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Grant

Right-of-Way (ROW) Cleanup Guidelines

EPD's Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR) Grant reimburses local governments for the costs of transporting and processing scrap tires collected from city and county right-of-ways. Funding for the grant comes from Georgia's Solid Waste Trust Fund. Applications are accepted year-round and projects are 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.

» Right-of-Way Requirements

Right-of way projects are an effective and efficient way to remove and recycle scrap tires from roadways that blight your community and pose a health hazard for residents. The following are requirements for your project:

- Projects must begin removal within 90 days of the date of execution of the agreement and must end within 12 months.
- All scrap tires shall be stored in a manner that controls the breeding and harboring of mosquitoes, rodents, and other vectors (e.g., trailer, under roof, secured tarp, or the like to prevent water accumulation).
- Activities involving open flames shall not be allowed within 25 feet of the scrap tire storage area.
- The scrap tires must have been collected during the term of the project as specified in the agreement.

Eligibility & Limits

- **The applicant must be a local government** (city, county, or solid waste authority).
- **The applying local government must be in compliance** with Georgia Department of Community Affairs' minimum standards under the Georgia Planning Act, legal requirements related to immigration, and the Service Delivery Strategy law.
- **Reimbursements are limited** to a maximum of $150,000 per local government per state fiscal year and up to $4.00 per passenger tire equivalent (PTE).
- **Reimbursable costs are limited** to the cost of transporting the scrap tires by a permitted tire carrier to a permitted or approved beneficial reuse scrap tire processor and the cost of processing the scrap tires at a permitted or approved beneficial reuse scrap tire processor.
- **Permitted** tire carriers and permitted or approved beneficial reuse scrap tire processors must be used. You may review lists of permitted vendors online at: https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/recovered-materials-and-abatement/recovered-materials/star-grant
- **Appropriate and necessary safety measures** (e.g., personal protective equipment) must be used at all times.
- **Applicants must comply with all applicable** procurement and purchasing regulations established pursuant to state law.

What is PTE?

PTE stands for passenger tire equivalent and is a unit of measurement used to convert numbers of truck and large, off-the-road (OTR) tires to passenger tire numbers.

EPD will reimburse up to $4.00 per PTE for right-of-way cleanup projects.

Costs Not Eligible for Reimbursement

- **Overhead expenses** including, but not limited to: costs for labor, accounting/budget/finance staff, rental/lease of space, utilities, copying, office supplies, advertising, fuel for government vehicles
- **Purchase of equipment/supplies** including, but not limited to: personal protective gear, drinks, food, sunblock, and insect spray
- **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., solid waste, electronics, construction/demolition debris, white goods)
- **Scrap tires disposed of at an out-of-state landfill, sorter, or other vendor other than an EPD approved beneficial reuse scrap tire processor**

Visit EPD's website for more information or email epd.star@dnr.ga.gov for assistance

https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/recovered-materials-and-abatement/recovered-materials/star-grant

Application Tips

CONTACT INFO. Accurate contact information is vital. If EPD has questions about the application, we will contact the person listed on the application as the project manager. Please list a secondary contact for the project in case the project manager is unavailable. If either contact changes at any time during the contract period, you must notify EPD by email.

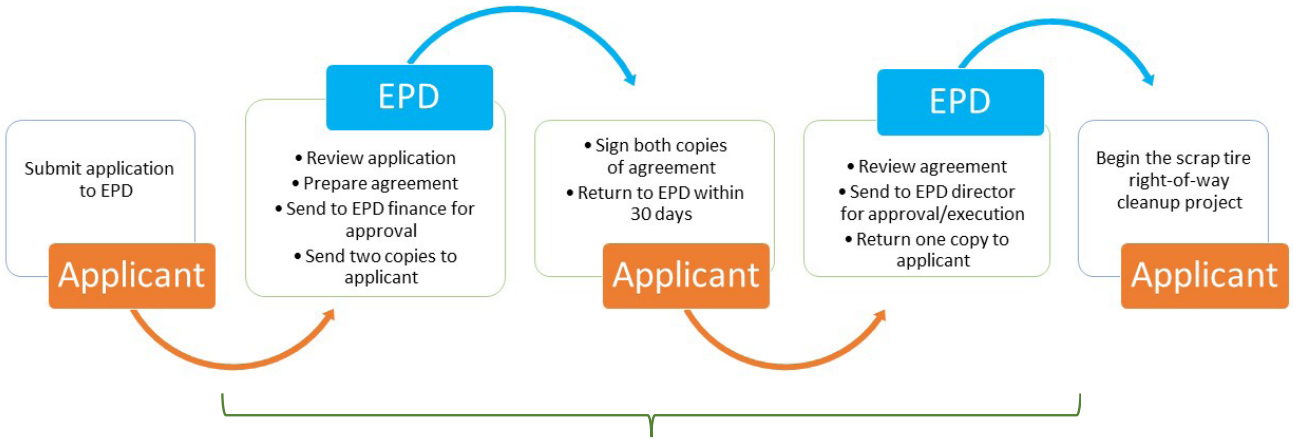
TIRE NUMBERS. Estimate the number of each type of tire that will be collected. The application will convert these to passenger tire equivalents (PTE).

PROJECT PLANNING. EPD requires 90 days to process the applications and fully execute the agreements. This includes EPD's review and processing time, as well as time for the applicant to sign the agreement and return it to EPD. Please factor this time into your project's overall timeline. See "Application Timeline" below.

TURNAROUND TIME. Applications may be expired if the signed agreement is not returned to EPD within 30 days.

PROJECT START. When your project is approved by EPD, the local government will receive a fully executed copy of the agreement signed by the EPD director. When you receive it, you can begin your project. 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.

Application Timeline



Please allow up to 90 days for EPD to review and process your application and factor this time into your project's overall timeline.

Reasons for Denial of Applications

COMPLIANCE STATUS. Applicant is not in compliance with Georgia Department of Community Affairs' minimum standards under the Georgia Planning Act, legal requirements related to immigration, and the Service Delivery Strategy law.

FALSE INFO. Applicant deliberately provided false information in order to obtain the scrap tire abatement reimbursement funds.

FUNDING. Insufficient funding available from the Solid Waste Trust Fund.

PERMIT / LEGAL STATUS. Temporary storage of scrap tires collected during the project is proposed to occur at a location not permitted/approved by EPD to store scrap tires or the number of scrap tires proposed for storage exceeds the permitted/approved limit (storage sites are subject to inspection by EPD).

Applicant does not possess the required local, state, or federal permits necessary to conduct the proposed activity.

Applicant is in violation of environmental laws, regulations, or permits (including those governing scrap tire storage).

ELIGIBILITY. The scrap tire abatement reimbursement application does not meet the eligibility criteria.

Applicant includes indirect and/or administrative costs not eligible for reimbursement.

Reporting & Reimbursement Tips

ACTUAL COSTS. All funding provided is based on the reimbursement of actual, direct project costs.

CONTACT INFO. As with the application, it is crucial that EPD be able to contact someone with knowledge of the agreement in case there are any questions. Please ensure a primary and secondary contact are listed.

DOCUMENTATION. The local government applicant is responsible for maintaining and providing documentation of all costs incurred.

All transportation manifests and weight tickets must list the tonnage or number of tires and be signed. This is a requirement in the Georgia tire carrier rules and is designed to verify that the tires reached their intended destination.

You must also submit copies of all checks or other proof of payment showing the amount paid to each contractor.

TIRE NUMBERS. The reimbursement request form will ask for the tonnage, or, if tonnage is not known, the number of tires collected and will automatically calculate PTE and cost per PTE.

ITEMIZED COSTS. Your reimbursement request must include invoices with detailed cost itemization that shows how the reimbursement amount was calculated.

JUSTIFICATION. If you are well under either your estimated cost or amount of tires, briefly explain why either figure is less than the estimate on the approved agreement. If you are over your estimated PTE amount, please explain the difference.

PHOTOS. EPD requires at least three digital photos be submitted with the report to provide verification of the project. EPD may use the photos in publications or on our website. The photos should be at least 300 dpi, no larger than 5 MB each, and in one of the following formats: JPG, PNG, or TIF. Please do not send photos embedded in a document.

DEADLINE. The report and request for reimbursement must include all the required information and be received by EPD by the reporting deadline (within 30 days of the end of the project) in order for the local government to receive reimbursement.

Submitting a complete and accurate report is one of the most important factors in receiving your complete reimbursement in a timely manner. Failure to submit a complete report by the reporting deadline may result in termination of the agreement, which means the local government will not be reimbursed for the project.

Event Changes & Notifications

EPD understands that things can happen during the course of your project that are beyond your control. If you decide to make changes to your project, you must notify EPD.

This include changes to the:

- Event dates(s)
- Event cost
- Project manager
- Secondary contact
- Tire storage location
- Tire carrier
- Scrap tire processor

You also need to notify EPD if you will need extra time to submit your interim or final reports.

If any of this information changes from your original application, email EPD at epd.star@dnr.ga.gov with the new information and briefly explain why the changes were needed. Please include the name of your government/authority and agreement # in the subject line.

Ready to Apply?

To apply for the STAR Grant, please visit the STAR Portal: https://webportalapp.com/sp/home/georgia-epd_star-grant_2024. If you have any questions, please email epd.star@dnr.ga.gov

