

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Russell Nix, Waste Reduction Unit Manager
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
404-362-4500

State Funds Now Available for Scrap Tire Amnesty Events and to Remove Tires Dumped on City and County Right-of-Ways

ATLANTA, GA – The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) today announced the availability of funding from the state Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) to remove and recycle scrap tires dumped along city and county right-of-ways and to pay for scrap tire amnesty events.

Local governments and solid waste authorities can apply for funding, in the form of a reimbursement, to cover the cost of transporting and processing these tires. With this announcement, EPD adds two new eligibility categories for state-funded cleanup under a program that began last summer.

In July 2015, EPD began accepting applications from local governments and solid waste authorities for funding to cover the cost of transporting and processing scrap tires from areas where the property owner is either unknown, financially unable to clean up the tires, or a victim of illegal dumping.

Applications for all three types of cleanups will be accepted on a rolling basis and awarded first come, first served, contingent on funding availability and demand.

Funding for the program comes from the state Solid Waste Trust Fund, which was established in 1990 as part of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act. In 1992, an amendment to the Act established a primary source of funding for the SWTF in the form of a \$1.00 fee on every new tire sold in the state. Each year, fees collected the previous year may be appropriated by the General Assembly to EPD.

For more information on this funding opportunity, including how to apply, please visit epd.georgia.gov/scrap-and-used-tires.

- 30 -

The **Environmental Protection Division** of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources is a state agency charged with protecting Georgia's air, land, and water resources through the authority of state and federal environmental statutes.