

Guidelines for the Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Program

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is committed to cleaning up scrap tires around the state and encourages local governments to assist with this effort by applying to the Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Program. Cities, counties, and solid waste management authorities are eligible for this program, which is funded by the Solid Waste Trust Fund.

General Funding Guidelines

The Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Program covers the costs of removing, transporting, and processing scrap tires cleaned up from identified, state-listed scrap tire dumps; removed from city and county right-of-ways; and collected during scrap tire amnesty events.

Funding for the program is provided by the Solid Waste Trust Fund and is based on the availability of funds. 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.

Applicants to the program must comply with all applicable procurement and purchasing regulations established pursuant to state law.

To apply, please complete a Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement Program application. If your application is to clean up one or more traditional dump sites, please submit a Tire Dump Inspection Form for each site along with your application (this form is not required for right-of-way cleanups or amnesty events). The form and applications can be found at epd.georgia.gov/scrap-and-used-tires.

Eligibility Information

Eligibility Criteria

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

Eligible Costs

Costs that are eligible for reimbursement consist of expenses directly related to the approved scrap tire abatement project. Eligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- The cost of accessing and loading the scrap tires
- The cost of transporting the scrap tires by a permitted tire carrier to a permitted or approved scrap tire processor
- The cost of processing the scrap tires at a permitted or approved 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)

Activities Eligible for Reimbursement

Scrap tire abatement activities are eligible where:

1. The property owner is either financially unable to clean up the tires, or
2. The property owner is unknown, or
3. The local government has determined that the property owner is a victim of illegal dumping, or
4. The scrap tires are located on a city or county right-of-way, or
5. The scrap tires have been collected during a scrap tire amnesty day event sponsored by the local government.

Ineligible Costs

Costs that are not eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to:

- Overhead expenses (e.g., costs for accounting/budget/finance staff, rental/lease of space, utilities, copying, office supplies, advertising)
- 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. As part of the review process, EPD will 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. Please note that 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 (does not apply to right-of-way cleanups or amnesty events)
- 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)
- 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 eligibility criteria
- 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)
- Temporary storage of scrap tires removed from right-of-ways or collected during amnesty events 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)
- Insufficient funding available from the Solid Waste Trust Fund

Reimbursement Process & Requirements

All funding will be provided based on the reimbursement of actual costs. The applicant is responsible for maintaining and providing documentation of all costs incurred.

Scrap Tire Amnesty Events: Scrap tires may only be collected on dates proposed in the approved application and following the execution of the agreement. The awardee agrees to submit a request for reimbursement and final report containing the information listed below to EPD within 90 days of the event.

Right-of-Way Projects: Removal of scrap tires may begin upon execution of the agreement and should begin within 90 days of the date of the agreement. The agreement will terminate 12 months from the date signed by the EPD Director or 90 days after completion of the project. The awardee agrees to submit quarterly requests for reimbursement to EPD, or on another schedule agreed to by both parties, and to submit a final report and request for reimbursement within 30 days of completing the project. The report should include the information listed below.

Dump Site Projects: The awardee agrees to begin removal of the scrap tires within 90 days of the date of the agreement. The agreement will terminate 12 months from the date signed by the EPD Director or 90 days after completion of the project. The awardee agrees to submit a request for reimbursement and final report containing the information listed below to EPD within 30 days of completing the project.

Required Report Information

- A completed final report form (available from epd.georgia.gov/scrap-and-used-tires) signed by 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."

- Digital images at least 300 dpi, no larger than 5 MB, and in one of the following formats: JPG, PNG, TIF
 - » Scrap tire amnesty events: One or more photos taken during event
 - » Right-of-way projects: One or more photos taken during cleanup or at storage site
 - » Dump sites: Photos taken before, during and after cleanup
- Itemized list of expenses
- Description of any problems encountered and how they were handled
- Number of volunteers participating (if applicable)
- Names and permit/approval numbers of carriers and processors used, if different from those in the application
- Copies of all itemized contractor invoices showing the number and/or tons of tires removed by type (e.g., passenger, truck, other)
- Copies of all checks showing the amount paid to each contractor
- Copies of all transportation manifests and weight tickets

Reports, supporting documents and requests for reimbursement, should be mailed to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Land Protection Branch
c/o Russell Nix, Waste Reduction Unit Manager
4244 International Parkway, Suite 104
Atlanta, GA 30354

Photos should be emailed to: recycle@dnr.ga.gov. Please reference the site or event name and your EPD-assigned project ID# in the email.

If you have any questions about the application or the reimbursement process, call EPD at 404-362-2537.