

# Scrap Tire Management In Texas

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Management, Legislation, and Other  
Scrap Tire Related Issues

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# Scrap Tire Management

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## Topics

- ▶ Tire program history at TCEQ
- ▶ Scrap tire generation rate
- ▶ Scrap tire supply
- ▶ End uses (demand)
- ▶ Legislative Actions
- ▶ TCEQ Activities



# Tire Program History

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1993 through 1997

- ▶ Tire “Program” established by the Texas Legislature
- ▶ All scrap tires managed under the “Waste Tire Recycling Fund”
- ▶ A \$2 “recycling fee” was charged for every new tire sold



# Tire Program History

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## Waste Tire Recycling Fund (WTRF)

- ▶ Provided reimbursement to facilities for use of tires
- ▶ Provided funds for the purchase of equipment or to retrofit existing facilities to use scrap tires



# Tire Program History

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## Waste Tire Recycling Fund (WTRF)

- ▶ Reimbursement was provided for the clean-up of “Priority Enforcement List” (PEL) sites
- ▶ Reimbursed processors for the collection, shredding, and recycling of tires



# Tire Program History

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1992 through 1997

- ▶ Generators, transporters, scrap tire facilities (processors and end users) and storage sites were required to obtain a registration from TCEQ
- ▶ Disposal of scrap tires in landfills was prohibited



# Tire Program History

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## Waste Tire Recycling Fund (WTRF)

- ▶ WTRF Program Ended 12/31/1997
- ▶ Processor payments ended 12/31/97



# Tire Program History

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Results of Waste Tire Recycling Fund (WTRF)  
“The Bad”

- ▶ Created shredded tire stockpiles at registered sites (Approx. 70 Million + Tires)



# Gibson - Atlanta

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# Tire Program History

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Results of Waste Tire Recycling Fund (WTRF)  
“The Good”

- ▶ Elimination of 700 illegal sites (PELs)???
- ▶ Initial scrap tire markets developed



# Tire Program History

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Scrap Tire Management  
January 1, 1998 - Current

- ▶ Registration and reporting requirements continue
- ▶ All scrap tire generators, transporters, processors, recyclers, energy recovery facilities, reclamation projects, and storage sites must register



# Tire Program History

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Scrap Tire Management  
January 1, 1998 - Current

- ▶ No State Required Tire Fees
- ▶ No funds available through the tire program
- ▶ Free Market System



# Tire Program History

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Tire Management Under Free Market  
January 1, 1998 - Current

- ▶ Tire Dealers collect a “disposal fee”
- ▶ Tire Dealers use the fee to cover overhead costs and to pay transporters for scrap tire removal
- ▶ Transporters haul the scrap tires to authorized processing, end use, or disposal sites for disposition



# Tire Program History

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Tire Management Under Free Market  
January 1, 1998 - Current

- ▶ Landfills are considered an authorized disposal facility if the tires are baled, split, quartered, or shredded



# Scrap Tire Generation Rate

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- ▶ Texas generates an estimated 24 million scrap tires annually (essentially 1 tire per person)



# Scrap Tire Supply

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Texas 2007

- ▶ Approx. 24 million generated annually (estimated)
- ▶ Approx. 1.5 million in currently registered stockpiles (14 sites)
- ▶ Approx. 10 million shredded tires in previously registered stockpiles (7 sites)



# Scrap Tire Supply

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Texas 2007

- ▶ Estimated 4.5 million whole tires in illegal sites
- ▶ Total of 40 Million
- ▶ Decrease of 55 million from 2002



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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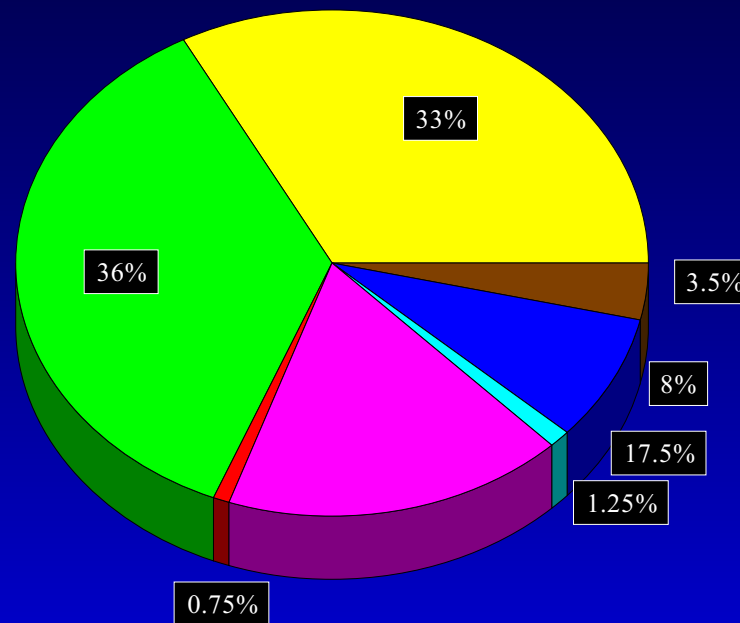
Reported use to TCEQ - 2007

- ▶ 32 million tires were utilized in 2007 (reported)
- ▶ Annual use exceeded annual generation by a minimum of 8 million tires



# Scrap Tire End Uses

Texas 2007



TDF



Landfill Disposal



Other



LRPUT



Rubber Mulch



Septic Systems



Crumb Rubber



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Land Reclamation Projects Using Tires – 36%

- ▶ Project to reclaim previously excavated or disturbed land (mines)
- ▶ 50/50 mix of tire pieces and soil
- ▶ 18 inches of final cover
- ▶ P.E. seal, prop. owner affidavit
- ▶ Public/local government notification and comment





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# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Tire Derived Fuel – 33%

- ▶ Whole and chips
- ▶ Cement kilns
- ▶ Paper and pulp mills
- ▶ Category usage decreased significantly since 2006
- ▶ Expected to increase as markets adjust



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Crumb Rubber –8%

- ▶ Rubberized asphalt
- ▶ Chip and crack seal
- ▶ Safety and traffic control devices
- ▶ Sports Fields & Playground surfaces



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Rubber Mulch – 1.25%

- ▶ Residential & Commercial
- ▶ Agricultural



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Septic Systems & Landfill Drainage Media -1%

- ▶ Use as drainage material in septic system drainfields
- ▶ Drainage media in landfill leachate collection systems & injection ports
- ▶ Category has decreased as chip supply has been depleted





SEP 28 2004



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Other – 3.5%

- ▶ Agricultural Use
- ▶ Highway application
- ▶ Retaining walls, fences, pet toys, mats, swings, erosion control
- ▶ Anything else



# Scrap Tire End Uses

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2007 Disposal in Permitted Landfills - 17.5%

- ▶ Not considered an “end use”
- ▶ The only option in some areas
- ▶ Tires must be split, quartered, shredded or baled
- ▶ Significant category increase past 2 years (from 2 -5 million)



# Scrap Tire End Use

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## Illegal Dumping Issues

- ▶ End users are not readily accessible to all areas of the State.
- ▶ More prevalent in areas with few to no end users or landfills, long transport distances (higher costs) rural and lower income areas.
- ▶ Continuing issue statewide



# Illegal Dumping Issues

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How to Minimize the Problem - COG Grants

- ▶ Local Enforcement Officers
- ▶ Provide funding cleanups
- ▶ 10% scrap tire related expenditure limitation has been eliminated



# Illegal Dumping Issues

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## Illegal Dumping Issues

- ▶ Cooperative efforts between TCEQ, local governments, landowners, and industry.



# Illegal Dumping Issues

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## How to Minimize the Problem

- ▶ Additional markets/end users are needed
- ▶ Additional cleanup funds
- ▶ Additional enforcement funds



# Legislative Solutions

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77th Legislative Session (2001)

- ▶ Several riders were approved that provide funds for cleanup of two tire sites and two TDF retrofits
- ▶ Funds were appropriated from Solid Waste Disposal Account 5000



# Legislative Solutions

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78th, 79th & 80th Legislative Sessions (2003, 2005 & 2007) Tire Legislation

- ▶ No tire related legislation was considered
- ▶ Little to no support for new tire “program”
- ▶ Did not appropriate additional cleanup or enforcement funds



# Legislative Solutions

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80th Legislative Session (2007)  
Tire Legislation

- ▶ Requested \$2 million for local government grants for cleanups, education, and enforcement.
- ▶ Requested \$5 million for additional cleanups at previously registered scrap tire sites.



# Legislative Solutions

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## 81st Legislative Sessions Possible Legislation

- ▶ Require punching holes in some used tires before transport to eliminate possible resale
- ▶ Limited interest in additional funding for cleanups, enforcement or new Scrap Tire Program



# Activities

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## TCEQ Activities

- ▶ Continue stockpile reduction projects.
- ▶ Coordinate with local governments & property owners for cleanup of other illegal sites
- ▶ Maintain current registration and enforcement program
- ▶ Work with end users to encourage new and increased usage of scrap tire materials



# Questions???

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- ▶ Grace Montgomery Faulkner,  
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