



Used Tire Management Program

The used tire management program is in response to requests by industry and the public to develop a user-funded system to remove used tires from Yukon's environment.

Used tires present a significant disposal challenge. They do not break down in the natural environment and will accumulate indefinitely unless they are processed in some way. They take up valuable landfill space when stored in piles above ground, provide a perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes, and are serious fire hazards.

The new surcharge applies to all new tires with an inner diameter of 24.5 inches or less. It does not apply to larger tires or tires not used on motorized vehicles. So, the five tires on most new vehicles, and any tires exchanged under warranty will be subject to the surcharge. The program was developed this way because all used tires – no matter how they were obtained – will one day be discarded, and the surcharge collected on them will eventually be needed to finance the cost of looking after them properly.

Surcharge Use

The surcharge will be deposited into the Recycling Fund to cover the cost of recycling the tires at the end of their useful life. Since the relatively small number of used tires generated in the territory each year cannot maintain a tire recycling industry here, Yukon's tires will be shipped to a neighbouring province for final processing or disposal.

Environment Yukon will award contracts each year for the various stages in that process, including collection of the tires in the communities, and transportation of the tires Outside. An annual report will detail exactly how the money collected from the public was used to handle the used tires.

Surcharge Development

The regulation that governs the program is based on public consultation and on input received from an advisory committee consisting of representatives from the recycling community, industry, and the municipal, First Nations, federal, and territorial governments.

Responsibilities

1. Consumers

Consumers are required to pay a \$5 surcharge to the retailer at the time of purchase. This surcharge is subject to GST. They can then only abandon or discard their tires at a depot designated to accept them. All community dumps and most tire retailers will be designated to accept tires from the public.

2. Retailers

Tire retailers will need a permit, which is available at no charge, to sell tires. They will collect the surcharge from consumers and then send the funds to the Recycling Fund every three months. Retailers will also be required to keep records of the number of tires imported or manufactured in Yukon; the value of the surcharge they owe to the fund; the number of tires supplied to consumers; and the value of the surcharge collected from consumers.

3. Depot Operators

Operators of depots who want to accept used tires must obtain a permit to operate their depot, except when the depot is operated at the same site as a waste disposal facility which already has a permit covering used tires. Depot operators are also required to keep records of the number of tires at the depot at the beginning of each year, and the quantity of tires removed from the depot for reprocessing or final disposal during the year.



For more information on the Designated Materials Regulation, please contact:



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Copies of Yukon regulations may be viewed online at <http://environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/monitoringenvironment/> under the "Standards & Approvals" section, or at any Yukon Public Library, territorial agent, territorial representative or regional services office. You may purchase copies at the Inquiry Centre, Yukon Government Administration Building, 2071-2nd Avenue in Whitehorse, or by mail from the Subscriptions Clerk, Yukon Government Queen's Printer, Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6 (phone (867) 667-5783 or toll free 1-800-661-0408 extension 5783).

