

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I am a farmer with a stock of old tyres, more than the permitted quantity. Where can I dispose of them?

A. Farmers who have surplus tyres and are moving them off the farm must use a registered and permitted collector. If the collector is registered with TRACS, the farmer does not have to register with the Local Authority. If the collector is NOT registered with TRACS, then the collector must have a Certificate of Registration from the Local Authority. The farmer must then register with the local authority prior to tyres moving off the farm.

It is up to the farmer to be satisfied that the collector/supplier s/he is using is registered either with TRACS or the Local Authority AND has a valid Collection Permit for waste tyres.

Contact your local authority to find local authorised waste collectors or consult www.connachtwaste.ie. Contact TRACS Tel 01- 4100601 for list of authorised waste collectors in your area.

Q. As a motorist, when I buy a new set of tyres, can I return old ones to the garage? Will I be charged for this?

A. A supplier of tyres is not obliged to take back used tyres but must display a sign to this effect and inform the vehicle owner of their responsibility for their disposal in an environmentally sound manner.

Garages accepting old tyres must register with their local authority or TRACs. Motorists may be asked to pay a charge to cover the cost of recovery and recycling of worn tyres.

Q. Where can I take my old tyres?

A. Contact your local authority who maintains a 'Section 19' register of all authorised waste tyre collectors in your area.

Warning

Failure to comply with the Regulations is an offence and prosecution may follow.

Contact details:

For list of authorised waste collectors in your area
Tyre Recovery Activity Compliance Scheme (TRACS)
Tel 01- 4100601

If you require further information please contact the
Environment Section of your Local Authority.

Galway County Council: Tel: 091 476402 www.galway.ie

Galway City Council: Tel: 091 536595 www.galwaycity.ie

Leitrim County Council: Tel: 1890 205 205 www.leitrimcoco.ie

Mayo County Council: Tel: 094 9024444 www.mayococo.ie

Roscommon County Council: Tel: 0906 637260 www.roscommoncoco.ie

Sligo County Council: Tel: 071 9111111 www.sligococo.ie



PAPER SOURCED FROM SUSTAINABLE MANAGED FORESTS

CONNACHT WASTE MANAGEMENT REGION

Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2007



CONNACHT
managing our waste better



Connacht Waste Management Region

The Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2007

This leaflet has been produced by the local authorities of Galway County and City, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo to raise awareness of the Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2007. The Regulations came into effect on 1st January 2008. The leaflet does not act as a legal interpretation and does not remove the obligation on business to consult and comply with the Regulations.

Introduction

An estimated 35,000 tonnes of waste tyres are generated in Ireland each year. A system for tracking waste tyres is necessary to ensure that they are disposed of correctly. Waste tyres are not in themselves a hazardous waste but have the potential to cause environmental pollution. Dumping or burning of tyres is an offence under the Waste Management Act (1996).

The Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2007 promote the environmentally sound management of waste tyres. They provide a regulatory framework for tracking the movement of waste tyres from the time they are discarded until they are either reused or processed for recycling or recovery.

Types of Tyres

The Regulations refer to any tyre used on a mechanically propelled vehicle (e.g. motor car, tractor, lorry or motorcycle) or a trailer attached to a mechanically propelled vehicle. Aircraft and bicycle tyres are exempt.

Industry compliance system

The Irish Tyre Industry Association (www.itia.ie) has established the Tyre Recovery Activity Compliance Scheme (TRACS). A network of producers, retailers and waste tyre collectors will co-operate to audit the movement of tyres between different parties.

As with other producer responsibility schemes, the participating tyre industry funds the running of the TRACS system. The system not only tracks the movement of tyres from when they are placed on the market until sold to end users, but more importantly to trace waste tyres from the time they are discarded until they are either reused or processed for recycling or reuse.

Producer and Supplier Obligations

The Regulations impose obligations on persons who supply tyres to the Irish market, whether as manufacturers, wholesalers, suppliers, traders, or retailers and on the collectors of waste tyres. An exemption from these obligations is available to persons who participate in a voluntary compliance scheme operated by an approved body (TRACS).

Manufacturers, retreaders, remoulders and importers are required to provide details of the quantities of tyres they place on the market. Wholesalers and retailers are obliged to transfer waste tyres to authorised waste collectors only. Wholesalers and retailers are required to provide details of tyres sold and waste tyres taken back and transferred to authorised waste collectors.

Authorised waste collectors who collect tyres are required to register with their Local Authority from February 2008. They are obliged to report on the quantities of waste tyres collected and transferred to third parties including farmers, recyclers, retreaders, remoulders and other facilities accepting tyres for recycling. Recovery operators are required to issue "Certificates of Recovery" to authorised waste collectors depositing waste tyres with them.

Local Authority Role:

The local authority is responsible for:

Enforcement of the Regulations within its functional area.

Establishing a register of Producers, Suppliers, Authorised Waste Collectors and Farmers within its functional area.

Maintaining the register and carrying out inspections of premises on the registers.



Re-use of Tyres

Waste tyres can be put to many beneficial uses when they reach their end of life. The rubber from shredded tyres has many uses, such as in playgrounds, as equine bedding or on football pitches. Furthermore the steel recovered from recycled tyres is a valuable resource. Tyres can also be retreaded - a retreaded truck tyre requires only 33% of the oil utilised in manufacturing a new one, a saving of up to 56 litres each time a truck tyre is retreaded.

Use of waste tyres on farms

If a farmer has surplus tyres and does not intend to move tyres on or off the farm, then the farmer is exempt from regulations, as long as tyres are stored in environmentally sound manner.

For the purposes of anchoring silage, farmers (with a herd/flock number) may store up to 8 tyres per square metre of silage pit. For example, for a silage pit measuring 20m x 10m, a farmer may store up to 1600 tyres.

If a farmer has tyres and is no longer using them to anchor silage, then the farmer should have the tyres moved using an authorised collector with a valid waste permit for transporting tyres.

Farmers who are buying tyres for the purpose of anchoring silage

Farmers must ensure that the tyres come from an authorised waste supplier, with a permit to transport waste tyres. If the supplier is registered with TRACS, then the farmer must check the registration certificate of the supplier. In this case, the supplier will register the farmer with TRACS and the farmer does not have to register with the Local Authority.

If the supplier is NOT registered with TRACS, the supplier must be registered with the Local Authority. The onus is on the farmer to ensure that the Supplier has valid certification with the Local Authority. The farmer must also then register with the local authority (fee is €20) prior to tyres being moved onto the farm.

Farmer giving tyres to other farmers

Farmers are not permitted to give or receive tyres to or from each other unless both farmers are registered with either TRACS or with Local Authority. The donating farmer must be registered as a supplier and the transporting farmer must be registered as an authorised collector.

