

Colorado Tire Fee Bill Advances

Colorado House Bill 1018, sponsored by Rep. Diane Primavera, D-Broomfield, and Rep. Marcia Looper, R-Calhan, was approved last month by the House Transportation and Energy Committee with bipartisan support. One of the bill's sponsors told the panel members that she wants to make sure that the money finally finds its way to its intended purpose.

"When the money is not being used for General Fund purposes, we want to make sure that waste-tire dollars are being used for the disposal of waste tires," Looper said, during the February 3 hearing on the measure.

Fees collected when new tires are purchased in Colorado—originally intended to fund the proper disposal of the
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Report Shows Success of Michigan Scrap Tire Program

In its first triennial report on the effectiveness of Michigan's Scrap Tire Program the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) reports that the program has been successful in achieving a statewide decrease in stockpiles of scrap tires, a statewide increase in compliance rates at scrap tire sites, and an expanded market capacity for scrap tire derived materials and products.

The DNRE credits this success to the ongoing Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Program which addresses abandoned scrap tire sites, as well as inspection and enforcement actions at existing scrap tire sites to ensure a level playing field for those meeting the requirements of Michigan's scrap tire law.

In 1991, there were more than 30 million tires stockpiled in Michigan, the DNRE said. Today, an estimated 664,000 PTE's remain in stockpiles in the state.

Since Michigan's Legislature first appropriated funding in 1993, the Scrap Tire Program has facilitated the cleanup of approximately 31.1 million tires at more than 1,000 sites through Scrap Tire Cleanup Grants. Another 1 million passenger tire equivalents (PTEs) are scheduled to be removed during the fiscal year 2010 grant cycle, according to DNRE.

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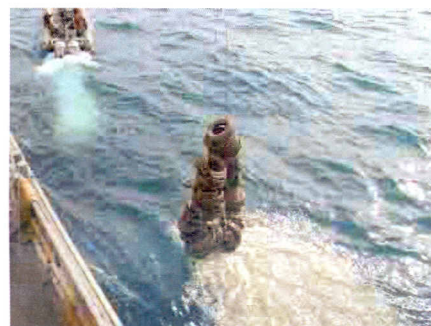
Cleanup Of Florida Tire Reef Put On Hold

A cleanup project to remove tires from a failed artificial reef off the coast of Fort Lauderdale, Florida has been put on hold until at least 2012, U.S. military and state environmental officials involved in the project said.

According to Pentagon officials, the Army and Navy crews, which provide drivers the project, are just stretched too thin by conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the war on terror and earthquake relief in Haiti.

The cleanup involves about 700,000 tires, some bundled with nylon and steel, which were sunk in 1972 a mile off Fort Lauderdale in about 70 feet of water to create an artificial reef.

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