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China Bolsters Controls On Scrap Tires

Amid continuing speculation and concern throughout the U.S. tire recycling industry about the extent of scrap tires being exported to China, information released last month by the China Rubber Industry Association (CRIA) indicates that the Chinese government has imposed new rules on imported solid waste, including scrap tires.

The rules, which became effective Aug.1, include reinforcement of a ban on importing scrap tires, and new requirements for stricter controls on the storing and stockpiling of waste tires. According to the report, national policy in China has prohibited the import of scrap tires and scrap rubber materials for many years.

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EPA Releases Scrap Tire Handbook

New publication seeks to accelerate scrap tire market development efforts in the U.S.-Mexico border region using experience-based information Scrap tires are a concern for Mexico, with many scrap tire piles concentrated throughout the U.S – Mexico border region.

In addition to the numerous environmental and public health concerns that scrap tire piles can raise in communities, they represent a vastly underutilized market for recycled materials. Now, a just-released scrap tire resource handbook has a variety of viable options for the Mexico border region to take advantage of the scrap tire market. Scrap Tires: Handbook on Recycling Applications and Management for the U.S. and Mexico is a roadmap for federal, state and local governments along with private industry for developing markets for scrap tires and valuable tire-derived materials.



"The publication has been years in the making and provides a wealth of information on addressing scrap tires," Rick Picardi, Acting Chief, of the International and Transportation Branch of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and project manager for the Scrap Tire Handbook, said. Prominent experts in the scrap tire field provided much of the content, Picardi said.

The handbook is both unique and useful in the fact that it presents information and lessons learned from those who have established and effectively managed scrap tire programs. It gives in-depth, modern-day coverage to the three main market segments

See EPA Handbook page 10...

Tennessee Changes Tire Disposal Reimbursement Fees

Changes to Tennessee's reimbursement fees for tire recycling are causing concern among tire generators and county officials throughout the state.

Originally, the reimbursement rates paid to counties were set at \$70 per ton. Effective July 1, 2011, the rate is \$1 per tire. County officials from around the state say the rate change has serious financials implications and they are now trying to determine if their expenses will be covered with the new rate.

Under Tennessee's tire-recycling program, which was created in 1991, as part of the state's Solid Waste Management Act, whole tires are banned from landfills and counties are required to create tire collection sites. Since 1996, each county has been required to directly provide - either by contract or through a solid waste authority - one or more sites for collection of recyclable materials within the county.

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