

# Are There Tires in Your Future? You have options!

Do you anticipate picking up tires at your next stream cleanup? There are options for disposal if you plan ahead accordingly. It is critical that tire disposal arrangements are made **BEFORE** you actually pick them up in order for these options to be available.

Check out these options to see which best fits for you.

## 1. Scrap Tire Reimbursement Program through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR):

- a. For general Stream Team volunteers: [Stream Teams United](#) has partnered with DNR to help Stream Teams with tire disposal costs through the Chuck and Sharon Tryon Revolving Tire Fund. They have agreed to handle much of the paperwork for reducing or eliminating the cost to the volunteer, but some information needs to be provided by the volunteer beforehand. The volunteer will need to liberally estimate the number and types of tires to be collected and use those numbers to get a cost for disposal from a permitted local tire shop/hauler. Then, contact Stream Teams United at [info@streamteamsunited.org](mailto:info@streamteamsunited.org) or call Mary Culler at 660-284-6185 to start the process. Stream Teams United will handle the reimbursement form; however, you must use a tire hauler that is willing to invoice you, then Stream Teams United will pay the invoice to be reimbursed later. You can find a list of DNR-permitted scrap tire haulers near you at <https://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/docs/wthaulerlist.pdf>



- b. For non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) designation: Non-profit organizations who choose to seek DNR revolving tire fund reimbursement on their own, rather than utilizing the non-profit status of Stream Teams United, can follow the same steps above and fill out the Non-Profit Scrap Tire Cleanup and Disposal application for direct reimbursement. Information on how to follow this process can be found at <https://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirecost.htm>.
- ## 2. If you are located in the St. Louis area:
- [Dobbs Tire & Auto Centers](#) has partnered with Missouri Stream Teams and Stream Teams United, and will accept up to 40 tires per event at no cost. Dobbs has 37 locations in the St. Louis Region and one in Cape Girardeau, making it a super-convenient drop-off location for all our St. Louis-area Teams. Volunteers must show their Stream Team ID Cards as proof of Stream Team membership. Call ahead to your nearest Dobbs to see if they have room to accept the tires before you collect them.

If your event nets more than 40 tires, Dobbs Tire & Auto Centers has an agreement with [Tire Shredders](#) in High Ridge, MO. Tire Shredders will accept the tires and invoice Dobbs for the cost of disposal.

Both Dobbs Tire Centers & Tire Shredders ask that mud and gravel be removed from the tires before they are brought in.

This is an amazing opportunity for our Teams. When you work with them, please let the Tire Center



managers know how much you appreciate this generous support. If you have questions, please contact Chris Riggert at [Chris.Riggert@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Chris.Riggert@mdc.mo.gov).

- 3. If you are located in the Joplin area:** If you clean up Shoal Creek, Turkey Creek, or Center Creek, the Joplin Recycling Center will dispose of tires from your cleanups at no charge. You may also be able to dispose of other recyclable hazardous waste items such as pharmaceuticals, sharps, household chemicals, batteries, and appliances. Teams will need to contact Lindsey James, Joplin Recycling Coordinator, at (417) 624-0820, ext. 501 prior to drop off so that arrangements can be made. Please let the Recycling Center managers know how much you appreciate this generous support!
- 4. Bridgestone Tires4ward Program:** As part of the [One Team One Planet](#) initiative, Bridgestone will pick up and recycle spent tires collected during any organized cleanup of public spaces, watersheds, rivers, and waterways. Bridgestone will help in ensuring community-recovered tires are sent to a new, valuable use completely free of charge. You can request tire recycling support by filling out a form [HERE](#). Please allow several weeks ahead of time to make arrangements for pick up after your cleanup.
- 5. Solid Waste Management Districts:** Solid Waste Management Districts often sponsor free tire collection days. A list of districts and contact information can be found at [dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/swmd/swmdinfo.htm](https://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/swmd/swmdinfo.htm). Consider contacting your

District representative before planning your next cleanup event.

- 6. General Trash Disposal:** Tires can be safely disposed of in regular household trash if the sidewalls are cut out on both sides, separated from the tread, and the three pieces put in the trash. They may also be cut circumferentially through the center of the tread (like a bagel) and the two pieces disposed of with normal household trash. Large numbers of cut tires can be hauled to a facility such as a landfill for disposal. Caution must be used when choosing this method to avoid injury.

More comprehensive information on proper scrap tire disposal in accordance with the Department of Natural Resources can be found at <https://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/index.html>.



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