

ADEM Scrap Tire Program Update  
Scrap Tire Commission Meeting

October 7, 2020

Virtual Meeting

**Funding**

FY2017	~ \$4.0M*
FY2018	~ \$4.2M*
FY2019	~ \$4.3M*
FY2020	~ \$3.9M*

Total Fund Balance ~ \$14.3M (~\$10M obligated)

\*The amount received by ADEM from the \$1.00 per tire fee. Funds are allocated for tire remediation projects, scrap tire marketing, and regulatory oversight activities conducted by ADEM.

**Permitting and Compliance Activities**

	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Facility Inspections	248	13,141
Registrations Issued (Registered Receivers)	118	4,768
Permits Issued (Fuel Users, Processors, and Transporters)	41	748
Failure to Register Enforcement Letters	6	1,051

**Current Permits and Registrations**

	<u>FY2020</u>
Active Registrations (Registered Receivers)	2661
Active Permits (Fuel Users, Processors, and Transporters)	124

**Enforcement Activities**

	<u>FY2020</u>
Administrative Orders	2
Warning Letters for Scrap Tire Facilities	3
Notices of Violations for Scrap Tire Facilities	5
Notices of Deficiency for Scrap Tire Dumps	14
Notices of Violations for Scrap Tire Dumps	20
Compliance Assistance	6

**Other Business**

**Coffee County RMA Project**

Coffee County has recently received a Scrap Tire Marketing grant award from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. This award will provide approximately \$288,800 in grant funds to support the use of recycled scrap tires in Rubber Modified Asphalt (RMA). Rubber Modified Asphalt helps to divert scrap tires away from the landfills and brings them to a beneficial end use. According to the Asphalt Rubber Technology Service of Clemson University, approximately 400 to 970 scrap tires can be beneficially used per lane-mile of pavement, depending on which grade is used. The grant funds

will be utilized in the resurfacing of a portion of Coffee County Road 110 utilizing Rubber Modified Asphalt in lieu of traditional asphalt. The resurfacing will extend for approximately two miles. The two miles of resurfacing will utilize a “Balance Mix” design with a Recycled Rubber Additive. It will be evaluated and compared to the approximately five miles of traditional asphalt resurfacing, also on Coffee County Road 110, utilizing the Alabama Department of Transportation’s current “Superpave Mix”. The National Center for Asphalt Technology has partnered with the Coffee County Commission. The National Center for Asphalt Technology will provide the training, mix design services, and evaluate the performance of the rubber modified mixture. They will also evaluate and report on the performance of the sections.

The Department also has six additional RMA projects that are currently in the Scrap Tire Marketing Program application process. These projects include roads and parking lots.

### **ADEM - Track Resurface**

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is resurfacing the existing recycled tire track, located at the Department. The work on the track will consist of supplying, delivering, and installing 1.5 inches of recycled tire rubber. The work will require the removal of 3 inches of existing edges on each side of the trail. Additionally, border material will be used on each side of the track to prevent the loss of base material from under the track, and it will also aid in the prevention of grass from growing into the tire material.

### **Town of Pine Hill – Grant**

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management awarded \$12,750 to the Town of Pine Hill in Wilcox County for a Scrap Tire Marketing Grant project. The town has been approved for the grant under the Alabama Scrap Tire Fund to upgrade the playground area to include recycled scrap tire mulch providing a safer play area. The mulch will be used on the playground at Depot Park, which sees an estimated annual visitation of approximately 35,000 visitors. This mulch will provide a safer surface for children and should provide a 10-foot fall protection pad for those using the playground equipment. More than 4,800 scrap tires will be recycled for this project.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management’s (ADEM) Scrap Tire Marketing Program (STMP) has worked to create a statewide interest in tire derived materials and overall scrap tire concerns and solutions. One-way STMP operates in the promotion of tire derived materials, is by using the program to understand the needs of municipalities and communities throughout the State and then provide solutions by suggesting alternatives through tire derived materials.

Currently the Department has sixteen projects that are in the Scrap Tire Marketing Program grant process. There are several different types of project including rubber modified asphalt, recycle tire mulch, walking tracks, and solid rubber surfacing.

### **ADEM Grants Workshop**

The Department hosted its first virtual grants workshop. On September 15, 2020, the grant workshop was hosted through Microsoft Teams. There was a large number of participants including cities and counties. The workshop covered Scrap Tire Marketing grants, Recycling grants, and the County Right of Way program. The workshop was a success and we have had several follow up conversations with potential grantees.

## **Alabama & Neighbors Scrap Tire Round Table**

The Department held its first virtual roundtable meeting for neighboring states on June 24, 2020. The meeting was held through Microsoft Teams. The main goal of the meeting was to grow sustainable scrap tire markets and the southeast. We had discussions with other states concerning the challenges, opportunities, and outlook of their programs. We were able to gain some useful insights to better assist with the implementation of our program. We will continue to have these meetings in the future to help better understand surrounding states programs and ours.

## **AEPACS – New Department Wide Database**

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is transitioning the Scrap Tire Program to the AEPACS-Alabama Environmental Permitting and Compliance System web portal. AEPACS is an electronic system that allows facilities to apply for and maintain permits as well as submit other required applications, registrations, and certifications. In addition, the system allows facilities to submit required compliance reports or other information to the Department.

The Department has reached out to the Alabama Tire Dealers Association (ATDA) concerning AEPACS. ATDA as agreed to assist the Department with sending the information to the tire dealers.

## **Hub & Spoke Central – Sustainable Recycling Market**

The Department has been hosting virtual meetings to discuss the future development of a sustainable market in the Birmingham Area that would better use/recycle tire material and other fuel material. We are currently scheduling monthly meetings to further this project. During the meetings we have discussions with most of the fuel users in the state concerning their needs and requirements for alternative fuels. We are also in discussions with landfills to potentially divert alternative fuels from the landfill to fuel markets. We have had several members that produce fuel products from raw material assist in the project, and we have recently added recycling operations in hopes that we can divert their waste material to potential fuel users.

## **Hub and Spoke System - North Alabama**

The Department is looking at opportunities in North Alabama. The City of Scottsboro in Jackson County has applied for a grant that would include a tire shredder. They could potentially provide tire material to WestRock paper mill in Jackson County. WestRock currently holds a fuel user permit. A shredding operation in Huntsville could also help to feed WestRock Tire Derived Fuel (TDF).

## **Scrap Tire Marketing Program - Summary**

The ADEM Scrap Tire Marketing Program was established to demonstrate potential beneficial end uses of scrap tires. Included in the potential uses are scrap tire derived products and applications, and their suitability for substitution of new raw materials. The program aims to support research and demonstration of end uses which may overcome current misconceptions and technical barriers, which will lead to more widespread implementation. The Department utilizes an open grant process to select demonstration projects for reimbursement. Such projects are meant to encourage the use of tire derived products and applications. These projects have not only provided environmental and economic benefits in their application but have improved communities and public facilities across Alabama.

The Department is currently looking at new and innovative ways to market recycled scrap tire material. Several options are currently being considered, some of which include a reimbursement program for scrap tires that would allow for them to be delivered to one of the potential Hub systems. The Department is also considering the Hub and Spoke model for other areas of the State, which would help prevent illegal dumping by giving the public a drop off location. This system would also allow for the recycling of tires from remediation sites.