

March 25, 2011

New recycling fees for tires effective April 1

Rates stay the same for car, pickup and other light-duty vehicle tires

Edmonton... Changes to the provincial tire recycling program take effect April 1 to continue to promote tire recycling and to better reflect the costs of collecting, recycling and processing tires.

As announced in December 2010, the fee on medium truck tires, such as those used on transport trucks, buses and trailers, will increase from \$4 to \$9. There will be no increases to the existing fees paid when purchasing tires for cars, pickup trucks, and other light-duty vehicles, which represent approximately 80 per cent of tires sold in the province.

Fees for industrial and off-road tires have been added to the program, which has been in place since 1992. Recycling fees make up a small fraction of the cost of tires. On average, the maximum price for medium off-road tires can be as much as \$6,000 per tire, while the recycling fee is \$100 per tire. This fee is essential to maintain a successful recycling program.

Alberta is a leader in Canada for scrap tire recycling. Each year, more than five million tires are collected for recycling from municipal landfills and tire and vehicle dealers. More than 63 million tires have been kept out of landfills since the program began. Scrap tires are made into recycled material and products used here in Alberta and across the world. Expanding the program will continue to keep more than 50,000 tonnes of scrap tires out of Alberta's landfills every year.

For more information on Alberta's tire recycling program, visit www.albertarecycling.ca.

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