

## Overview of the Used Tires Program Plan

The Used Tires Program Plan was developed by Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) in co-operation with Ontario Tire Stewardship (OTS), the Industry Funding Organization (IFO) established by WDO. The Program Plan addresses tires from all types of passenger and commercial on-road and off-the-road motorized vehicles.

To support plan development, WDO and OTS consulted with stewards and stakeholders through a consultation workshop, with simultaneous webcast, and stakeholder meetings. Two versions of the Draft Program Plan were posted for comment, with each subsequent version revised to reflect stakeholder comments and suggestions.

### Program Overview

The program will provide convenient opportunities for individual consumers and businesses to direct their used on-road and off-the-road tires to reuse, retreading and recycling programs. The program will be supported by a comprehensive promotion and education program to encourage householders and businesses to participate in the program. Financial incentives will be provided for organizations that collect, transport, and process Used Tires in a manner that will lead to 90% diversion of used on-road tires in the first year of the program and almost 50% of off-the-road tires by year five of the program.

As directed by the Minister of the Environment, the Used Tires Program Plan has been developed in accordance with the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* (WDA), and intends to achieve the following objectives:

- To promote reduction, reuse and recycling of Used Tires.
- To financially support and expand a collection system comprised of registered collectors, including tire dealers, auto wreckers, municipal depots and other collection agents, accepting Used Tires from consumers.
- To divert 90% of used on-road tires starting in the first year of the program and to divert almost 50% of off-the-road tires by year five of the program.
- To clean up all used tires in stockpiles within three years.
- To implement vendor qualification requirements to ensure Used Tires are collected, transported and processed in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
- To track and audit Used Tires from the point of collection through to final destination, including verification of processing, in order to confirm program performance in relation to accessibility, collection and recycling targets.
- To educate Ontario residents through a province-wide promotion and education campaign about the opportunities to reduce the generation of used tires through extending tire life and to manage used tires under the Used Tires Program Plan.
- To expand capacity in Ontario to process used tires and manufacture products from recycled used tires.
- To undertake research and development to identify opportunities to increase demand for products from recycled used tires and to improve collection and recycling systems for off-the-road tires.
- To shift the costs of managing Used Tires from generators to the producers and importers of tires in Ontario.

To manage the 12 million used tires generated annually in Ontario and clean up one-third of the stockpiled tires, the Used Tires Program Plan will collect \$73.9 million in Tire Stewardship Fees from brand owners and first importers of tires supplied into the Ontario market in year 1.

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## Targets

The Plan sets out the following targets to meet the requirements established by the Minister of Environment for the Used Tires Program.

Accessibility - The program sets annual targets for increased accessibility for all Ontario residents from an estimated baseline of 13,800 collection locations to 19,500 collection locations by Year 5. These collection sites will be located across the province to ensure accessibility for all Ontarians and will include tire retailers, automotive service facilities, municipal waste management sites, auto wreckers and other private collection sites.

A Collection Allowance of \$0.88 for each passenger, light truck tire or small off-the-road tire<sup>1</sup> and \$3.05 for each medium truck or large off-the-road tire<sup>2</sup> will be provided to registered collection agents.

Reduction – The program includes public education to inform Ontario residents how to extend tire life to reduce the number of tires being generated as waste. As a result of this public education, the program estimates a 2% reduction in the number of tires generated as waste by year 5.

Collection – The program proposes to collect 100% of used on-road tires starting in year 1 and 15% of off-the-road in year 1 increasing to 50% by year 5. The program commits to undertaking R&D to increase the collection of off-the-road tires. R&D activities will include identifying generators of off-the-road tires and challenges in collection and transporting off-the-road tires.

Reuse – Haulers picking up used tires from collection locations will receive a Transportation Incentive for all tires transported, including tires directed to reuse and retreading. The program estimates that approximately 15% of on-road used tires will be directed to reuse or retreading, or approximately 1 million tires directed to reuse and approximately 500,000 tires directed to retreading in year 1 of the program. The program estimates that approximately 1.3 million off-the-road tires will be directed to retreading in the first year of the program.

Sales of used or retreaded tires will be exempt from the Tire Stewardship Fee levied on brand owners and first importers of new tires supplied into the Ontario market to create a further economic incentive to purchase a used or retreaded tire.

Recycling - The program commits to diverting 90% of used on-road tires starting in the first year of the program and to diverting almost 50% of off-the-road tires by year five of the program. The program commits to undertaking R&D to increase recycling of off-the-road tires. R&D activities will include identifying challenges in processing off-the-road tires and opportunities to increase processing and recycling of off-the-road tires in Ontario.

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of the Collection Allowance, a small off-the-road tire would be equivalent to a passenger/light truck tire by weight.

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of the Collection Allowance, a large off-the-road tire would be larger than a passenger/light truck tire by weight. It is anticipated that off-the-road tires such as agricultural tires may be collected through collection agents. It is anticipated that the very large off-the-road tires, such as those installed on mining and forestry equipment, will be managed through direct shipment from generator locations.

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### **Next Steps**

OTS is working with the Ontario Tire Collectors Association to develop an Ontario-specific Transportation Incentive model to support payments to haulers for transporting used tires from collection sites to processors. Work on the model is continuing in order to be ready for implementation under an approved Used Tires Program Plan.

The Used Tires Program Plan proposes a commencement date on the first day of the month four months following approval of the Used Tires Program Plan, unless the commencement date would fall within October, November or December when the commencement date would fall on the following January 1. OTS is beginning immediately to prepare for commencement.