



## Tire Remediation Program

### Overview

- There are millions of tires and rims in dump sites all over Virginia. The DEQ estimates dealing that there are 25 million tires in over 1,200 locations throughout the Commonwealth. For years, tire disposal wasn't regulated. These tire piles pose extraordinary fire hazards, as tire fires are very difficult to control. Additionally, water collecting in tires provides a fertile breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes. The state compensates the company to remove this blight and provide an essential service that benefits the environment.
- The East End Landfill has taken an active interest in cleaning up piles of old waste tires around the Commonwealth. The company has targeted several dump sites around the state. Heavy equipment is moved in to shred tires and cart them away. The steel is not separated from the rubber, but the shredded tires are repurposed.
- In 2009, the company removed more 225,000 tires from one of the state's largest tire dumps in Hanover County. The company has a goal of a half-million tires for 2010.
- Tires are shredded, removed and taken to DEQ approved landfills where they can be used in place of gravel to cushion the landfill after the liners are installed.
- The company is reimbursed for its tire removal by the state as part of a DEQ program designed to help eradicate illegal tire dumps and environmental risks.
- On average, five million tires are now sold annually in Virginia. That means there are five million old tires need to be disposed...Now with state fees imposed on tire disposal, there are safer methods.

Visit: <http://www.deq.state.va.us/wastetires/> The DEQ website has details on tire dumping history and its tire pile cleanup program.