What is a scrap tire?

**Purpose**

This educational guideline is applicable to the general public, tire dealers, and scrap tire businesses and addresses an individual’s responsibility when handling scrap tires in Ohio and is intended to guide readers through some of the major requirements of the scrap tire rules. However, it is only a guide and the appropriate sections of the Ohio Administrative Code should be read in their entirety.

**Applicable Rules and Statutes**

- Ohio Revised Code 3734
- Ohio Administrative Code 3745-27-01
- Ohio Administrative Code 3745-27-54 through 3745-27-79

**What is the definition of a scrap tire?**

Ohio Administrative Code 3745-27-01 defines a scrap tire as a type of solid waste and includes any unwanted or discarded tire, regardless of size, that has been removed from its original use. For the purposes of this definition, unwanted means the original generator, owner, or manufacturer of the tire no longer wants, or is unable, to use the tire for its original purpose. Discarded means the original owner or manufacturer of the tire has disposed of the tire. A scrap tire is any tire that has been removed from its original use and includes all whole scrap tires and pieces of scrap tires which are readily identifiable as scrap tires by visual inspection and still contain wire.

**Are used tires also scrap tires?**

Yes. A used tire is a scrap tire because the original owner has discarded it and no longer wants the tire. A used tire is a scrap tire whether it is mounted on a rim or not. A used tire remains a scrap tire until it is installed on a vehicle. Retreadable casings are also scrap tires until a retreading business has accepted and inspected the tire and marked it as suitable for retreading.

**What kinds of tires are not included in the definition of a scrap tire?**

The definition of scrap tires does not include those from non-motorized vehicles such as bicycles, lawnmowers, or wheelbarrows, and does not include non-pneumatic, solid tires such as fork lift tires. These types of tires may be recycled or disposed of as a solid waste or as scrap tires. Tires that have been retreaded or regrooved for resale or reuse are not considered to be scrap tires, as well as spare tires mounted on a vehicle or trailer. At a tire retreading business, tire casings that are stored indoors and have been marked as being suitable for retreading are not considered scrap tires.

**Are tire shreds considered scrap tires?**

Yes and no. Tire derived fuel (TDF) and tire derived chips (TDC), less than four inches in all dimensions, are considered scrap tires only while they are stored at a scrap tire recovery facility or until they are being transported to the end user. Therefore, TDF and TDC do not have to be transported by a registered transporter to the end user. During transport and at the end user, TDF and TDC are not regulated as scrap tires. Tire shreds larger than four inches in any dimension do not meet the definition of TDF or TDC and are always defined as scrap tires.

**Is a tire on an abandoned vehicle a scrap tire?**

No. Any tire still on a vehicle is not a scrap tire and will not be defined as a scrap tire until it is removed from the vehicle.

**If a tire is mounted on a rim, but is no longer on a vehicle, is it a scrap tire?**

Yes. If the tire is no longer installed on a vehicle or being carried as the spare tire, it is considered a scrap tire and shall be handled accordingly, regardless of whether it is on or off the rim.
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Are products made from scrap tires regulated as scrap tires?
No, once the product has been shipped from the scrap tire recovery facility, the product is no longer regulated as a scrap tire. After a scrap tire has been made into a product (e.g., industrial mats, dock bumpers, etc.), it may be sold and used in place of another product and is no longer defined as a scrap tire. When that scrap tire derived product is no longer useable or has been used up, it may be recycled or disposed of as a solid waste or scrap tire.

Once TDC and other scrap tire shreds have been beneficially used in a project, it is no longer regulated as a scrap tire. When the beneficial use project is abandoned, removed, or demolished, materials may be reused, recycled or disposed, in accordance with the appropriate regulations, as a solid waste.

Contact
If you have questions regarding this document or would like more information, please contact the Scrap Tire Unit located in the Division of Materials and Waste Management at (614) 644-2621.

- Central District Office (614) 728-3778
- Northeast District Office (330) 963-1200
- Northwest District Office (419) 352-8461
- Southeast District Office (740) 385-8501
- Southwest District Office (937) 285-6357

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