

MDEQ News Release: Fourteen Communities Receive \$2.9 million for Scrap Tire Market Development

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Contact:

Aaron Hiday, MDEQ Sustainable Materials Management Specialist, hidaya@michigan.gov, 517-284-6580

Melody Kindraka, MDEQ Public Information Officer, kindrakam1@michigan.gov, 517-284-6716

Fourteen Communities Receive \$2.9 million for Scrap Tire Market Development

Old vehicle tires will soon find a new purpose thanks to \$2.9 million in grants from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The funding will support recycling, research and equipment.

Recycled scrap tires from vehicles can be used in asphalt for roads, as a raw material in the manufacturing process, as mulch in gardens and playgrounds, or as fuel to produce energy. However when illegal dumping occurs scrap tires pose both a fire hazard and a human health risk as a mosquito breeding ground.

These grants directly support Gov. Rick Snyder's initiative to double the state's residential recycling rate to 30 percent. Funding for 2017 is used to support three broad categories of projects that provide for the reuse of used tires:

- Road projects using tire crumb rubber-modified asphalt or chips derived from scrap tires being used in the construction and repair of Michigan roadways. Tire crumb rubber-modified asphalt produces a pavement that lasts longer, provides for noise reduction, and gives better skid control and visibility in rain and snow. Additionally, tire chips can be used as lightweight fill along roadways prone to having subsidence issues. Tires used in these construction projects must come from Michigan.
- Research projects to find new, innovative ways to incorporate tire rubber into asphalt and concrete, improving the material's performance.
- Equipment projects to increase the use of tires, find new ways to create commodities from tires, and increase the use of existing products. Examples of existing products include floor tiles, footwear, and rubber-compound feedstock for injection and blow molding.

Grant recipients for 2017 are:

Midland County Road Commission	Road	\$431,947
Michigan State University	Research	\$431,000
Michigan Technological University	Research	\$431,000
City of Harbor Beach	Road	\$220,011
City of Caro	Road	\$207,000
City of Flushing	Road	\$187,500
Saginaw County Road Commission	Road	\$180,000
Saint Clair County Road Commission-Smith's Creek Road	Road	\$179,170
Imlay Township	Road	\$174,000
City of Imlay City	Road	\$155,000
City of Davison	Road	\$105,000
Village of Ortonville	Road	\$103,000
Porous Pave Incorporated	Equipment	\$62,779
Saint Clair County Road Commission-Bridge Overlays	Road	\$33,176
		\$2,900,583.00

For more information about Michigan's Scrap Tire Program, visit www.michigan.gov/scrap tires.