

Scrap Tires in Michigan

While scrap tire regulations are primarily state-level issues, most states have enacted legislation with several common threads for auto recyclers. These regulations aim to prevent illegal dumping, minimize fire and health hazards, and promote recycling or beneficial use.

Common threads in state scrap tire rules include:

Landfill Bans: Many states ban whole tires from landfills. If land disposal is permitted at all, tires typically must be processed (cut, shredded, or chopped) into pieces of a certain size first.

Storage Limits and Permits: Facilities can typically store only a limited number of scrap tires without a specific permit. **Michigan auto salvage yards are exempt from tire storage rules if less than 2,500 tires are stored onsite.** Storing quantities beyond this threshold requires a permit and adherence to specific safety guidelines, such as maintaining distance between piles and implementing fire prevention measures.

Certified Auto Recyclers agree to store less than 1500 tires (one semi load) onsite.

Michigan scrap tires are managed under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) Chapter 324 Part 169. The rule states that an automotive salvage yard can store up to 2,499 tires without being categorized as a "Collection Site." Registered Collection Sites are required to follow specific guidelines to maintain compliance.

Hauler Registration and Manifests: States commonly require those who transport a certain number of scrap tires to register as a waste tire hauler. **In Michigan, anyone transporting more than 10 scrap tires at once on public roads must be a registered scrap tire hauler** with the state's Department of Environmental Quality (EGLE). Haulers must display their registration number on their vehicle. A manifest system is used to track the origin and destination of the tires, ensuring they reach a permitted processing or disposal facility. Michigan hauler credential information ([Hauler Information](#)).

Prohibition of Open Burning/Dumping: The uncontrolled burning or illegal dumping/burying of scrap tires is strictly prohibited due to air and water pollution concerns.

Disposal at Permitted Facilities: Auto recyclers are generally required to dispose of tires only at permitted facilities, such as registered scrap tire collection centers or permitted processors. Michigan disposal site must be registered recycler/processor ([List of Disposal Sites](#)).

Funding Mechanisms: Many state programs are funded by a fee or tax collected at the point of new tire sales. Michigan.gov/ScrapTires is the main hub for the EGLE Scrap Tire Program, where you can find info on grants, registered facilities, regulations, and online reporting for haulers, sites, and end-users. The program offers grants for cleanup and market development, technical help, and manages compliance for scrap tires in Michigan, aiming to reduce fire/health risks. Find staff contacts and the program email (EGLE-ScrapTire@Michigan.gov) .

Market Development: States often work to encourage the development of viable end-use markets for scrap tires, such as tire-derived fuel (TDF), ground rubber for asphalt and other products, or civil engineering applications.

<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/materials-management/scrap-tires>