

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 451 of 1994**

**324.16903 Accumulation of scrap tires outdoors by owner or operator of collection site; compliance; bond required; exception; drawing on bond; notice; order.**

Sec. 16903.

(1) A person who owns or operates a collection site where fewer than 2,500 scrap tires are accumulated outdoors shall comply with all of the following:

(a) Scrap tires shall be stored in the tire storage area identified on the scrap tire collection site registration application map and approved by the department.

(b) Only scrap tires shall be accumulated in the tire storage area.

(c) Subject to subdivision (f), the scrap tires shall be accumulated in piles no greater than 15 feet in height with horizontal dimensions no greater than 200 by 40 feet.

(d) Subject to subdivision (f), the scrap tires shall not be within 20 feet of the property line or within 60 feet of a building or structure.

(e) Subject to subdivision (f), there shall be a minimum separation of 30 feet between scrap tire piles. The open space between the piles shall at all times be free of rubbish, equipment, and other materials.

(f) Scrap tire piles shall be accessible to fire fighting equipment. If the requirement of this subdivision is met, the local fire department that serves the jurisdiction in which the collection site is located may grant a variance from the requirements of subdivision (c), (d), or (e). A variance under this subsection shall be in writing.

(g) Scrap tires shall be isolated from other stored materials that may create hazardous products if there is a fire, including, but not limited to, lead acid batteries, fuel tanks, solvent barrels, and pesticide containers.

(h) Except for scrap tires that are a commodity used to create a storage pad for, or a roadway for access to, other scrap tires that are also a commodity, scrap tires shall not be placed in the open spaces between tire piles or used to construct on-site roads.

(i) The owner or operator of the collection site shall allow the local fire department that serves the jurisdiction in which the collection site is located to inspect the collection site at any reasonable time.

(j) All persons employed to work at the collection site shall be trained in emergency response operations. The owner or operator of the collection site shall maintain training records and shall make these records available to the local fire department that serves the jurisdiction in which the collection site is located.

(2) A person who owns or operates a collection site where at least 2,500 but fewer than 100,000 scrap tires are accumulated outdoors shall comply with all of the following:

(a) All of the requirements of subsection (1).

(b) The tire storage area shall be completely enclosed with a fence that is at least 6 feet tall with lockable gates and that is designed to prevent easy access.

(c) An earthen berm not less than 5 feet in height shall completely enclose the tire storage area except to allow for necessary ingress and egress from roadways and buildings.

(d) The collection site shall contain sufficient drainage so that water does not pool or collect on the property.

(e) The approach road to the tire storage area and on-site access roads to the tire storage area shall be of all-weather construction and maintained in good condition and free of debris and equipment so that it is passable at all times for fire fighting and other emergency vehicles. If the local fire department for the jurisdiction where the collection site is located submits to the department a written determination that the on-site access roads do not ensure that the site is accessible to emergency vehicles at all times during the year, the department of environmental quality shall consider the on-site access roads to be in violation of this requirement.

(f) Tire storage areas shall be mowed regularly or otherwise kept free of weeds, vegetation, and other growth at all times.

(g) An emergency procedures plan shall be prepared and displayed at the collection site. The plan shall include telephone numbers of the local fire and police departments. The plan shall be reviewed by the local fire department prior to being posted.

(h) Scrap tires shall not be accumulated in excess of 10,000 cubic yards of scrap tires per acre.

(3) A person who owns or operates a collection site where 100,000 or more scrap tires are accumulated outdoors shall comply with all of the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) and shall operate as a scrap tire processor.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, subsection (6), and section 16903b, a person who owns a collection site shall maintain a bond in favor of the department. If the collection site registration application under section 16904 includes a written agreement between the owner and the operator of the collection site that requires the operator to maintain the bond and the department approves that requirement, then the operator shall maintain the bond. The bond shall be on a form approved by the department. If the operator is required to maintain the bond

under this subsection but fails to do so, both the owner and operator are responsible for a violation of this subsection. The amount of the bond shall be not less than the sum of \$25,000.00 per quarter acre, or fraction thereof, of outdoor tire storage area, and \$2.00 per square foot of tire storage area in a building. However, for collection sites with fewer than 2,500 tires, the bond shall not exceed \$2,500.00.

(5) A person who elects to use a certificate of deposit as a bond under subsection (4) shall receive any accrued interest on that certificate of deposit upon release of the bond by the department. If a person elects to post cash as a bond, interest shall accrue on that bond quarterly at the annual rate of 6%, except that the interest rate payable to the person who maintained the bond shall not exceed the rate of interest accrued on the state common cash fund for the quarter in which an accrual is determined. Interest shall be paid to the person who maintained the bond upon release of the bond by the department. Any interest greater than 6% shall be deposited into the fund.

(6) A bond is not required under subsection (4) for a commodity storage area that meets all of the following requirements:

(a) The commodity is stored in accordance with the requirements of subsection (1).

(b) Not less than 75% of the commodity, by weight or volume, that is stored at the collection site each calendar year is removed from the collection site to a market during that year, and the collection site owner or operator certifies compliance with this subdivision on a form approved by the department.

(c) The areas of the collection site that are used for storage of the commodity are not larger than a total of 1 acre and those areas are indicated on a survey by a registered professional engineer submitted to the department as part of the collection site registration.

(7) Subject to subsections (8) and (9), the department may utilize a bond required under subsection (4) for the costs of any of the following:

(a) Removing scrap tires from the collection site.

(b) Bringing the collection site into compliance with this part.

(c) Cleanup at the collection site.

(d) Fire suppression or other costs associated with responding to a fire or other emergency at a collection site, including reimbursement to any local unit of government that incurred those costs.

(8) The department may draw on the bond required under subsection (4) if any of the following apply:

(a) There is a fire or other emergency at the collection site.

(b) The collection site owner becomes insolvent.

(c) The owner or operator of the collection site violates this part and does not cause the removal of the scrap tires as ordered by the department or a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) The owner or operator of the collection site fails to extend or renew the bond under its terms or establish alternate financial assurance under subsection (4) at least 30 days before the expiration date or cancellation date of the bond, unless the owner or operator is exempt from the requirement to obtain a bond under section 16903b.

(9) At least 7 days before the department draws on the bond under subsection (8)(b) or (c), the department shall issue a notice or order alleging that the owner or operator of the collection site is insolvent or violated this part and shall provide an opportunity for an informal hearing. This subsection does not apply if the bond is drawn upon under subsection (8)(c) as a result of failure to cause the removal of scrap tires as ordered by a court.

**History:** 1994, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 30, 1995 ;-- Am. 1997, Act 17, Imd. Eff. June 11, 1997 ;-- Am. 2002, Act 496, Imd. Eff. July 3, 2002 ;-- Am. 2006, Act 522, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006 ;-- Am. 2014, Act 543, Imd. Eff. Jan. 15, 2015

**Popular Name:** Act 451

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