



TCEQ/USTMA Scrap Tire Workshop

October 22, 2020



Scrap Tire Workshop

One of the goals of the 2020 TCEQ Scrap Tire Program Five-Year Plan is to develop and coordinate partnerships to facilitate communication with other TCEQ programs, scrap tire handlers, new technologies, and state and local agencies. In line with that goal, the TCEQ Scrap Tire Program collaborated with the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA) to host a first-of-its-kind virtual scrap tire workshop on October 22, 2020. There was strong interest in the workshop, and a great turnout of over 110 engaged stakeholders from our state and local governments.

The Scrap Tire Program secured nine presenters from various governmental entities throughout Texas to share a diverse range of experiences based on their geographic location, population size, type of governmental entity, and varying methods taken to address scrap tire management. The TCEQ coordinated with the regional Councils of Governments (COGs) to invite local governments involved in regulating scrap tires which included solid waste departments, law-enforcement, fire departments, environmental offices, cities and counties.

The Scrap Tire Program developed background materials and served as the point of contact for the presenters, attendees, and USTMA. The TCEQ received numerous emails and phone calls from participants expressing their appreciation of the excellent presenters, how the information provided would help their organization, and how much they enjoyed the workshop. Word of the positive experiences has already spread and TCEQ continues to receive questions from people who would like to be involved in the next workshop.

Post Event Survey

Main Take-Aways:

- The workshop was a resounding success and received an overall rating of 4.7 out of 5 stars.
- Dedicated grant funding for scrap tire cleanups was identified as the factor that led to the greatest success in remediating scrap tire problems.
- Survey participants requested increased legal liability and enforcement options.
- Survey results emphasize the need for additional collaboration and outreach events to address scrap tire management in Texas.

Resources the TCEQ can provide, other than funding, that would improve scrap tire management:

- The most common request was for examples of scrap tire ordinances. Cities and counties across Texas would like to develop their own scrap tire ordinance, but need help getting started.
- Survey participants requested plain language educational materials for small businesses and increased outreach for tire generators and local governments.
- Participants requested more communication from the scrap tire program, specifically an avenue to address questions. *(The program will advertise the tires proxy box email address at the next scrap tire workshop and make it more visible on our website.)*

The most prevalent scrap tire management issues based on survey results:

- Illegal Dumping
- Unauthorized Tire Sites
- Lack of Enforcement Options
- Mosquito and Rodent infestations
- Limited or no authorized end-use or disposal facilities nearby

Next Steps

Second TCEQ/USTMA Scrap Tire Workshop

The Scrap Tire Program plans to co-host a second Scrap Tire Workshop with USTMA that will include speakers from the scrap tire industry and governmental agencies. The goal of the second workshop is to include the scrap tire industry in the discussion and expand upon topics raised in the first workshop. The TCEQ and USTMA will seek presenters from cement kilns using tire derived fuel, crumb rubber facilities and users, major processors, LRPUS, recyclers, waste cleanup professionals, and other associated businesses.

If you know of someone that would like to attend future scrap tire workshops, please have them email their request to tires@tceq.texas.gov.