

## Waste tyre reuse: Do's and Don'ts

Waste tyres may be used to weigh down covers on silage stacks or grain bunkers.

Waste tyres should **not** be used:

- for bulking material in civil engineering works
- as fences
- for erosion control works
- to assist burning of other waste (for example, stumps, dead stock)
- for drains constructed from half-tyres.

Waste tyres must not be buried or burnt. EPA also discourages the use of tyres as tree guards because of the fire risk. Tyres lying around on a farm can also become breeding sites for snakes and vermin.

DO



DON'T



## About EPA Victoria

Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) is an independent statutory authority of the Victorian Government. We are committed to delivering clean air, safe land, healthy water and minimal disturbance from noise and odour. We do this by regulating environmental pollution.

A key focus area for EPA is improving waste management practices and reducing large-scale dumping of industrial waste through the Victorian Government's Illegal Dumping Strikeforce program.

## Further information

More information on managing waste on farms is available at: [epa.vic.gov.au/publications](http://epa.vic.gov.au/publications), including EPA's *Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines - Farm Waste Management* (EPA publication IWRG641).



If you need interpreter assistance or want this document translated, please call **131 450** and advise your preferred language.

## Environment Protection Authority Victoria

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# Using waste tyres on farms and other private property



Environment  
Protection  
Authority Victoria



## Why are waste tyre stockpiles an issue?

Each year, approximately 1.5 million passenger car tyres (known as equivalent passenger units or EPUs) are unaccounted for in Victoria - potentially illegally dumped or stockpiled. Recent tyre fires across the state have shown how the incorrect and illegal storage of tyres on private property can result in significant fire risks that may cause impacts on human health, the environment and property.



## How do Victoria's waste tyre storage requirements affect landowners?

In 2015, Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) introduced regulations for waste tyre storage to reduce the risk of fires. Properties storing more than 5000 EPUs (or 40 tonnes of waste tyres) at any time should contact EPA, as a licence or works approval is required.

If you have fewer than 5000 EPUs of waste tyres on your property, then the EPA works approval and licensing requirements will not apply. All waste tyres, however, should be stored in a way that minimises fire risk and hazards to human health and the environment.

For more information on storing and managing waste tyres on your property, including CFA/MFB storage guidelines, visit [epa.vic.gov.au/wastetyres](http://epa.vic.gov.au/wastetyres)



## Can I store and reuse waste tyres on my land?

**Yes.** Waste tyres can be used for legitimate on-farm uses, but should not be brought onto your property for disposal. Refer to our Do's and Don'ts checklist for more information.

Under the *Environment Protection Act 1970*, EPA can take enforcement action against anyone who dumps or permits the dumping of waste tyres on public or private property.

If you have more than 5000 EPUs of waste tyres on your property and don't have a licence, you could face a significant fine and the cost of taking the tyres to a lawful disposal or recycling facility.

## Where can I dispose of unwanted waste tyres?

To dispose of your tyres, there are several responsible management options:

- Visit the Australian Tyre Recyclers Association's (ATRA) website to search for ATRA members that collect tyres from your area - [atra.org.au](http://atra.org.au) (charges apply)
- Visit Tyre Stewardship Australia's website to search for accredited tyre recyclers and collectors that service your area - [tyrestewardship.org.au](http://tyrestewardship.org.au) (charges apply)

- Contact your local waste and resource recovery group to identify options for disposal and recycling in your local area - [sustainability.vic.gov.au/wrrgs](http://sustainability.vic.gov.au/wrrgs)
- Contact your local council to find out if you can dispose of waste tyres at your local landfill.

## How can I report suspected illegal tyre stockpiles?

If you suspect someone is illegally stockpiling tyres or taking them to a place that cannot lawfully accept waste tyres, contact EPA's 24-hour pollution hotline on **1300 372 842 (1300 EPA VIC)**.

EPA has established an Illegal Dumping Strikeforce to reduce the dumping of waste tyres and other industrial waste on public and private land. The Strikeforce team works together with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria and local councils to investigate illegal dumping, including tyre stockpiles.

