

## **Lycoming County Policy on Tire Disposal**

In the spirit of environmental responsibility, Lycoming County Landfill will continue to emphasize the acceptance of tires for recycling and will not accept tire pieces for disposal.

Disposal of whole tires in a permitted Landfill is specifically excluded by regulation of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, but is allowable as an acceptable residual waste when cut in pieces. However, from an environmental standpoint cut tires are a problem in a landfill. Modern tires are designed to be very durable and long lasting which creates several disposal issues:

1. Tires do not decompose in a landfill, even though they contain a high percentage of organic material.
2. Tires do not compact well in a landfill; they shorten the life of the landfill, and take up space that could be used by other more suitable materials and shorten the lifetime of the landfill.
3. Tires and large tire pieces tend to migrate to the surface of the landfill causing leachate outbreaks (seepage of liquid from garbage that is in the landfill) on the slopes of the landfill and creating pathways for landfill gas to escape (causing odors and increases in greenhouse gas emissions.)

Tires have a very high value in their chemical constituents but recovery is not currently economical. Lycoming County Resource Management Services will continue to recycle tires through our Regional Recycling Center so that they may be processed for reuse. Recycling tires will help promote the development of cost effective recovery technologies that will reduce our nation's reliance on foreign oil

Please help Lycoming County protect our local environment by recycling your old tires either through your local tire dealer or directly with the Lycoming County Resource Management Services' Regional Recycling Center located along Route 15 in Montgomery.