

# Tires! What Do I Do With Them?

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Amelia County Department of Environmental Management

One of the most frequent questions we receive is “What can I do with old tires?”

Whole tires are prohibited from being disposed of because of their design which causes tires to “float” to the surface in landfills. Tires can be accepted for disposal if they are split or cut in half or shredded. However, this is difficult for the average citizen because most tires have steel “belts” running through them.

Therefore, in 2012 the Amelia County Board of Supervisors passed an Ordinance for the proper disposal of tires. The Ordinance provides for the disposal of tires at the Maplewood landfill for a fee to cover the cost of recycling the tires. The charge is \$2.00/each for passenger tires, \$5.00/each for large truck tires and \$25.00/each for large tractor tires. If you would like to make an appointment to recycle your tires at the Maplewood landfill, you must first call 561-3004 to make an appointment to deliver the tires. When you arrive at the landfill for your appointment, you will be met by a county employee who will show you where to unload the tires, accept your payment and provide you with a receipt. You will be required to load the tires yourself into a trailer at the landfill. Appointments can be made on Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Of course, the best way to prevent the need to dispose of tires is to leave your old tires at the shop where you buy your new tires. Tire retailers are required to charge a tire tax for every tire they sell, which you pay whether you leave the tires with the retailer or take them home with you.

Dumping of waste tires is illegal in Virginia and carries a penalty of “confinement in jail for up to twelve months and a fine of up to \$2,500.00, either or both.”

The Amelia County Solid Waste Ordinance states “storage of used tires in the County shall be limited to ten (10) tires per parcel of land, except for operating farms which may possess up to a maximum of 500 used tires for agricultural purposes such as berm stabilization and feed storage.”

We encourage all citizens to handle their tires in an environmentally responsible manner. Please call 561-3004 with any of your recycling questions or visit our website @ [www.ameliacova.com](http://www.ameliacova.com).