



USED TIRES AND THE WEST NILE VIRUS

Used tires are a breeding source for mosquitoes, providing an ideal “incubator” for mosquito eggs and larvae. Adult mosquitoes lay eggs in improperly discarded tires filled with rainwater and organic materials (leaves and grass). Over the course of one breeding season, hundreds of mosquitoes can be generated from just one tire.

Preventing the West Nile Virus through Proper Used Tire Management

Proper management of used tires will help reduce the mosquito population in Illinois. These steps can help eliminate breeding grounds for mosquitoes:

- Don't leave tires outside; keep them in a building.
- If tires must be stored outdoors, cover them with a tarp, plywood, or other covering to keep rainwater out.
- Dispose of used tires at an Illinois EPA registered used tire processing facility.
- Report tires found in woods or grassy areas to the Illinois EPA Used Tire Unit.
- If mosquito eggs or larvae are found in tires at any location, report to Illinois EPA's Used Tire Unit.
- If your business accepts or stores used tires, protect your employees and customers from exposure – properly manage the tires.
- Visit the Illinois EPA Used Tire Program web site at www.epa.state.il.us/land/tires/index.html for more information.

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus is a viral disease primarily spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito. This virus can cause encephalitis, a swelling of the brain. Mosquitoes first become infected when they feed on birds that carry the virus. Once the mosquito is infected, it can spread the virus to people or other animals when it bites them. The house mosquito, the primary carrier of West Nile virus, breeds in water-filled tires, roadside ditches and street catch basins.

More than 4,000 cases of West Nile disease, with more than 260 deaths, were recorded in the U.S. for 2002. Illinois had the highest number of reported cases and deaths in the country. The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 62 fatalities and 877 non-fatal cases linked to the Illinois 2002 outbreak of West Nile Virus.

Reporting Improperly Discarded Tires to Illinois EPA

Since 1989, the Illinois EPA Used Tire Program has cleaned up over 10 million used tires that were improperly discarded in Illinois. To report improperly discarded tires, please refer to the contact information found on the back of this fact sheet.

ILLINOIS EPA USED TIRE PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Todd Marvel, Manager
Tap Hefley or Greg Spencer, Used Tire Specialists
Used Tire Unit
217/785-8604

Illinois EPA Bureau of Land Regional Offices

Rockford

Dave Retzlaff, Manager
Shawn Newell, Kaare Jacobsen
4302 North Main Street
Rockford, Illinois 61103
815/987-7760

Counties Served:

Boone, Bureau, Carroll, Dekalb,
Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle,
Putnam, Stephenson, Whiteside,
Winnebago

Des Plaines

Chuck Grigalauski, Manager
George Skroboton, John Leen, Charles Onyezia
9511 West Harrison Street
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847/294-4000

Counties Served:

Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane,
Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry,
Will

Peoria

John Tripses, Manager
Jeb McGhee
7620 North University, Suite 201
Peoria, Illinois 61614
309/693-5462

Counties Served:

Fulton, Hancock, Henderson, Henry,
Knox, McDonough, Marshall,
Mercer, Peoria, Rock Island, Stark
Tazewell, Warren, Woodford

Champaign

Rich Gerard, Manager
Curt White
2125 South First Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820
217/278-5820

Counties Served:

Champaign, Clark, Coles, Crawford,
Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas,
Edgar, Effingham, Ford, Iroquois,
Jasper, Livingston, McLean, Macon,
Moultrie, Piatt, Shelby, Vermilion

Springfield

Dave Jansen, Manager
Jan Mier
4500 South Sixth Street Road
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/786-6892

Counties Served:

Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass,
Christian, Greene, Jersey, Logan,
Macoupin, Mason, Menard,
Montgomery, Morgan, Pike,
Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott

Collinsville

Chris Cahnovsky, Manager
Kendall Couch
2009 Mall Street
Collinsville, Illinois 62234
618/346-5120

Counties Served:

Bond, Clinton, Fayette, Madison,
Marion, Monroe, Randolph,
St. Clair, Washington

Marion

Gary Steele, Manager
Garrison Gross, Robert Mileur
2309 West Main Street, Suite 116
Marion, Illinois 62959
618/993-7200

Counties Served:

Alexander, Clay, Edwards, Franklin,
Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson,
Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence,
Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski,
Richland, Saline, Union, Wabash,
Wayne, White, Williamson

Please visit the Illinois Department of Public Health website at www.idph.state.il.us
for additional information about the West Nile Virus.