



Transporting used tyres

Are used tyres a controlled waste?

Yes. Any matter listed in Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004* (Regulations), and that is within the definition of waste in the National Environmental Protection Measure for the *Movement of Controlled Waste between States and Territories*, is a controlled waste.

Waste means any:

- a) discarded, rejected, unwanted, surplus or abandoned matter; or
- b) otherwise discarded, rejected, unwanted, surplus or abandoned matter intended for:
 - i) recycling, reprocessing, recovery, reuse, or purification by a separate operation from that which produced the matter; or
 - ii) sale, whether of any value or not.

National Environmental Protection (Movement of Controlled Waste between States and Territories) Measure as varied November 2010.

Tyres are considered a controlled waste and are subject to the Regulations even if they may lawfully be accepted at a Class I, Class II or Class III landfill facility.

Do I need a controlled waste carrier licence to transport used tyres?

Yes. Regulation 11 of the Regulations specifies that a carrier who transports a controlled waste on a road must be licensed. The transportation of used tyres falls under

the Regulations as packaged controlled waste.

Packaged controlled waste is controlled waste which is transported in any manner other than in a tank. This may include transport of controlled waste in drums, skip bins, Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs) or the transport of solid wastes such as tyres and contaminated soil.

To transport packaged controlled waste on a road the carrier requires a packaged controlled waste carrier licence. The carrier's drivers and vehicles should be listed in the Controlled Waste Tracking System (CWTS) to operate under the licence. For more information about listing drivers and vehicles go to www.der.wa.gov.au/cwfactsheets or contact the Department on 6467 5000.

Do I need a controlled waste tracking form?

A controlled waste tracking form (CWTF) must be completed for:

- all loads of bulk controlled waste; and
- packaged controlled waste equal to or greater than 200 kilograms or litres.

If transporting less than 200 kilograms or litres of packaged controlled waste, a CWTF is not required; however, the carrier must still be a licensed controlled waste carrier.

How many used tyres would weigh 200kg?

The size and weight of tyres is variable depending upon whether the tyre is from a car, truck, earthmover etc.

A standardised system for reporting volumes of tyres across Australia has been developed which converts all tyres to Equivalent

Passenger Units (EPU) or standard car tyres based upon average weights of different tyre types. The average weights of each type of tyre are outlined in Table 1. In general, 200kg would represent 25 used car tyres.

How do I record used tyres on the CWTF?

For controlled waste tracking purposes tyres should be recorded in kilograms calculated by weighing the load, or using the number of tyres and the standardised weights in Table 1.

Table 1 Average Used Tyre Weight

| Type of used tyre | EPU | Assumed mass |
|------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Motorcycle | 0.5 | 4kg |
| Passenger/car | 1 | 8kg |
| Light truck | 2 | 16kg |
| Truck and bus | 5 | 40kg |
| Super single | 10 | 80kg |
| Solid small | 3 | 24kg |
| Solid medium | 5 | 40kg |
| Solid large | 7 | 56kg |
| Solid extra large | 9 | 72kg |
| Tractor small | 15 | 120kg |
| Tractor large | 25 | 200kg |
| Fork lift small | 2 | 16kg |
| Fork lift medium | 4 | 32kg |
| Fork lift large | 6 | 48kg |
| Grader | 15 | 120kg |
| Earth mover small | 20 | 160kg |
| Earth mover medium | 50 | 400kg |
| Earthmover large | 100 | 800kg |
| Earthmover extra large | 200 | 1600kg |
| Earthmover giant | 400 | 3200kg |
| Bobcat | 2 | 16kg |

Where can I unload used tyres?

The *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* establish a Tyre Landfill Exclusion Zone. The burial of tyres within the Tyre Landfill Exclusion Zone can only occur at an approved site that has the written approval of the Chief Executive Officer. The boundaries of the Tyre Landfill Exclusion Zone can be found in Schedule 5 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987*.

Check with individual waste facilities to determine if tyres may be unloaded at their facility.

Additionally, tyres may be taken to a number of other types of waste facilities for re-treading, recycling or other purposes.

Are my tyres still controlled wastes if they are being re-treaded or recycled?

Yes. In accordance with the definition of controlled waste outlined in the Regulations, regulatory requirements apply to controlled waste regardless of whether the material is being disposed, recycled, re-used or undergoing another treatment process.

However, once a used tyre has been recycled into another product, the product made from the used tyres is not considered a controlled waste and does not require tracking.

If I am transporting used tyres interstate or from interstate into WA, do I need to use a CWTF?

Yes. CWTFs are required when transporting controlled waste on a road in Western Australia, regardless of the destination.

Specific requirements apply where a carrier or equivalent licence holder in another state or territory seeks to transport controlled waste into or out of WA.

For more information on controlled waste entering WA or controlled waste leaving WA, contact the Department on 6467 5000.

Do I need to use a CWTF if my tyres are being exported overseas?

Yes. A CWTF must be used for all packaged controlled waste equal to or greater than 200kg or 200L when transported on a road in Western Australia.

If the used tyres are being exported, the CWTF must be used to track the used tyres to the port for export. The transport of controlled waste via ship is not covered under the Regulations and therefore the port should be selected as the waste facility for tracking purposes.

Please be aware other agencies, including the Department of Environment (Cwth) have requirements regarding the export of waste.

Penalties

Breaches of the Regulations may attract an on-the-spot infringement notice, penalties of \$250 or \$500, or a fine of up to \$5000, as determined by a court. Pursuant to s 40(5) of the *Sentencing Act 1995*, offences committed by corporations may attract a fine of up to \$25,000 as determined by a court.

Significantly larger penalties may result if there is a breach of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, such as pollution caused

by the illegal disposal of used tyres. Prosecution can result in fines of up to \$1 million for a corporation, or in the case of an individual up to \$500,000 and/or imprisonment.

More information

For advice on compliance with the Regulations or any other controlled waste matter, please contact the Department on +61 8 6467 5000, or email cwts@der.wa.gov.au.

This document is available in alternative formats and other languages on request.

Related documents

Additional [publications about controlled waste](#) and related [controlled waste fact sheets](#) are available online on DER's website or by contacting the Department on +61 8 6467 5000.

Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied upon to address every aspect of the relevant legislation.

Please refer to the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and the *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004*, available for free from the [State Law Publisher website](#).

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