

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECYCLING BIKE TIRES AND TUBES

For: BC Bike Shops

Program Background

A new, voluntary (i.e. non-regulated), recycling initiative is available for interested shops across British Columbia. The program piggybacks on the existing auto scrap tire collection infrastructure managed by Tire Stewardship BC (TSBC). With the help of Western Rubber Products (WRP), used bicycle tires and tubes can now be incorporated into rubber recycling streams. Currently, due to the financial assistance of TSBC, there will be no eco-charge to the consumer or disposal fee for your shop.

This program was developed with the assistance of industry (auto and bicycle), various non-profits and the general cycling community. The long-term success of this recycling program is dependant on a chain of voluntary actions involving the public, bike tire retailers and the many stakeholders already involved in automotive tire recycling.

Instructions:

1. As a first step, develop a good relationship/partnership with your local automotive tire retailer. If your shop needs a list of registered tire retailers in your city to see who is the closest or most convenient, TSBC has a list of all registered retailers on their web site at: <http://www.tsbc.ca/industrycorner.php#participants>
2. Register your name as a shop offering bike tire recycling by submitting an e-mail to TSBC using the link on their website for general e-mail at: <http://www.tsbc.ca/contact.php>. In your e-mail, please indicate:
 - Shop Name, Address, City, Phone, E-mail Address, Web Site Address

TSBC will post a list of all participating bike shops so that the general public is aware of recycling locations. Your shop may choose to advertise your new role in tire and tube recycling to your customers.

3. Collect unwanted/used tires. As a voluntary program, **no fee should be charged** to individuals dropping off used tires or tubes. Each shop keeps used tires and tubes on site until a sufficient number of tires and tubes are collected (minimum 25 for tires and 25 for tubes).
4. Bundle the tires and tubes. **NOTE: tires and tubes must be bundled SEPARATELY.** This is very important, as the recycling processes are different for tires versus tubes.

5. Bundling instructions for **TIRES:**

- Group/stack the required # of tires (25 tires per bundle).
- Any type of bike tire is acceptable.
- Do not cut tires.
- Bind (tie) the group of tires together using a bicycle tube. **The valve stem can be left on or cut off.**
- Bind the group of tires together by using the tube like a piece of string (i.e. Tie them together with a simple knot).
- See attached illustration below.



6. Bundling Instructions for **TUBES**

- Group/stack the required # of tubes (25 tubes per bundle).
- Any type of bike tube is acceptable.
- Do not cut the tubes. Valve stems can be left on.
- Bind (tie) the group of tubes together using a bicycle tube. **The valve stem can be left on or cut off.**
- Note, as part of the recycling process of tubes, the valve stems will eventually be cut off and recycled as well.
- See illustration below.



7. Transport bundles of tires and tubes to any participating tire retailer.
8. Drop off process:
 - **The retailer will expect that all bundles be packaged correctly as described above.**
 - At their discretion, the retailer can decide to not accept tires and tubes that have been bundled incorrectly.

Additional information

- Additional information on the program can be found on TSBC's website:
<http://www.tirestewardshipbc.ca/bike.php>

Contacts - Questions

- The Bicycle Trade Association of Canada (BTAC) is a partner in this program and will be a common point of contact for all Independent Bike Dealers (IDBs). Any questions, suggestions or concerns should be sent to info@btac.org

Public Awareness

- Help make the program a success by letting your customers know you offer bicycle tire and tube recycling!
- TSBC is promoting the launch of the bike tire and tube recycling program during Bike To Work Week and other various communication mediums.