

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 Return to Retailer (R2R) registered retailers on their web site at: <https://tsbc.ca/recycle-your-tires/>
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: <https://tsbc.ca/contact-us/>
In your e-mail, please indicate: • Shop Name, Address, City, Phone, E-mail Address, Web Site Address

The “Recycle Your Tires” finder on our website, when you search for “bicycle tires and tubes” will indicate that you are a participating bike shop. This will make the public aware they are able to recycle bicycle tire and tubes by dropping them off at your location. Your shop may choose to advertise your new role in bicycle 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 enough tires and tubes are collected (minimum 25 for “regular” bicycle tires, 10 for mountain bike 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.

A. Bundling instructions for **REGULAR BICYCLE TIRES** :

- Group/stack the required # of tires (25 tires per bundle).
- This is for regular bicycle tires i.e., see section below for mountain bike tires.
- 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.



B. Bundling Instructions for **MOUNTAIN BIKE TIRES:**

- Same as for regular bicycle tires but please limit the bundle to 10 mountain bike tires.



C. 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.



5. Please take bundled bicycle tires and tubes to your partnering local automotive tire retailer as part of their regular collection. 1 bundle is considered a PTE (Passenger Tire Equivalent)
6. Please note improperly bundled bicycle tires and tubes may be refused by the retailer.

Thank You!