The Tire Accountability Program (Act 317)

Act 317 of 2017 requires Arkansas to implement a used-tire program for recyclable tires, waste tires, and used tires culled for resale that is accountable, effective, and efficient. The primary goal of the program is to recycle or put to beneficial use as many tires as possible.

Emergency Regulation No. 36, currently in effect, is comprised of a general overview and purpose of the program, definitions, the electronic-manifest (e-manifest) system, rim-removal fees, and disbursements. These program elements go into effect January 1, 2018.

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is developing a comprehensive Regulation No. 36 that encompasses all program elements defined in Act 317 of 2017 including definitions, business plans, rim-removal fees, disbursements, the e-manifest system, and administrative procedures for Tire Generators.

The law and proposed rule defines tire generator as, “A person who (1) removes tires from rims for disposal or resale; or (2) stores used tires on or in property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by that person.” A tire generator includes:

- Tire retailers and wholesalers
- Tire transporters
- Tire manufacturers and manufacturers of retreaded tires;
- New and used car dealers
- Auto repair shops
- Salvage yards

Significant benefits of the new Tire Accountability program include:

- A fully developed program to ensure proper management of used tires
- Reduction of waste-tire sites across the state
- Standardization of the fee collection system by shifting to a flat “rim fee” on all tires removed from a rim ($3 for new tires; $1 for used tires)
- Fostering accountability through more accurate tracking of tires
- Use of an e-manifest system to streamline reimbursement and distribution of funds to local solid-waste management districts
- Incentives to process and market used tires including mileage reimbursement for the transport of used tires
- Diverting tires out of landfills by encouraging recycling by solid-waste management districts

NOTE: Each Tire Generator that was not registered with the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) on August 1, 2017, shall be registered with DFA on or before December 1, 2017.

For additional information on the Tire Accountability Program call ADEQ at (501) 682-0006.