

April 2013

PROPOSAL FOR RECYCLING BIKE TIRES AND TUBES

For: Manitoba Bike Shops

Proposal

A new, voluntary (i.e. non-regulated), recycling initiative is being proposed for interested bicycle shops across Manitoba. The program will use the existing scrap tire collection infrastructure managed by Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM). Used bicycle tires and tubes have been incorporated into rubber recycling streams in Manitoba on a limited basis for a number of years and there will continue to be no eco-fee or disposal fee charged to the seller or consumer under an expanded or new permanent program.

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

Instructions:

1. As a first step, develop a good relationship/partnership with your local automotive tire retailer. To find the nearest registered tire retailer(s) in your area, a list of all registered retailers is on TSM's web site: www.tirestewardshipmb.ca
2. Register your name as a shop offering bike tire recycling by submitting an e-mail to TSM using the contact link on our website for general e-mail at: info@tsmb.ca
In your e-mail, please indicate:
 - Business Name, Address, City, Phone, E-mail Address, Web Site Address

TSM 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 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 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 number 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 number 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:
 - Inform the automotive tire retailer that you are dropping off bicycle tire and/or tube bundles and ensure they are neatly placed with their scrap tires, or leave with the retailer to manage if that is their preference.
 - 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 will be located on TSM's website: www.tirestewardshipmb.ca

Contacts-Questions

- The bicycle community is a partner in this program and The WRENCH, a non-profit organization that strives to make bikes and knowledge of bicycle repair and maintenance accessible to the public, will be a common point of contact for all independent bike shops. Any questions, suggestions or concerns should be sent by email to mech@thewrench.ca, by telephone: 204-296-3389, or visit www.thewrench.ca

Public Awareness

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