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## **LDEQ LAUNCHING WASTE TIRE PILOT PROGRAM TO EMPOWER MUNICIPALITIES AND PARISHES**

**BATON ROUGE, LA** — The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) is set to launch a new Waste Tire Pilot Program aimed at empowering municipalities and parishes with financial support toward combating unauthorized waste tire disposal. Applications will be accepted beginning May 1, 2025. Program funding will be distributed to awardees via reimbursements for expenses paid to address unauthorized tires following submission of receipts and approval, and there will be an overall financial cap for the program.

The Waste Tire Pilot Program is one result of a series of town halls that **LDEQ Secretary Aurelia S. Giacometto** hosted across Louisiana in 2024 to connect with local officials and members of the public to examine the waste tire issue. Following the tour of six regions of the state, the agency released a [comprehensive report](#) in March 2025 outlining the following key areas:

- regulatory oversight of the LDEQ’s Waste Tire Management Program (WTMP);
- impacts of illegally dumped tires on business and communities; and
- potential applications to combat the waste tire problem.

In light of the insights gained from these engagements and findings of LDEQ’s research regarding its regulatory authority, the agency is introducing this pilot program to tackle the widespread challenges resulting from illegally dumped and unauthorized tires. Because municipalities and parishes may experience impacts differently, the program enables awardees to apply funding to help address their waste tire problems.

“LDEQ’s pioneering new Waste Tire Pilot Program represents one more example of how our administration is working to clean up Louisiana, support local governments, and protect the people of this great state. I appreciate Secretary Giacometto and all of LDEQ’s hard work,” said **Governor Landry**.

“The launch of this pilot program marks a turning point in how we work with our local partners to address unauthorized dumping,” stated **Secretary Giacometto**. “By putting resources directly into the hands of the municipalities and parishes on the front lines of this issue, we’re providing real tools to achieve real results. We’re proud to stand with local leaders and help empower communities to clean up and protect their environment.”

Since its establishment in 1989, WTMP has served as a vital environmental program aimed at the effective management and beneficial re-use of recycled waste tires across the state.



Pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2418(O)(5), LDEQ collects late fees associated with the waste tire program — with the overall goal to utilize them for a lawful purpose that furthers the goals of the program. One such purpose is to help municipalities and parishes combat waste tire problems within their jurisdictions, as with the Waste Tire Pilot Program.

“I appreciate Secretary Giacometto’s leadership on the waste tire issue, which poses a persistent challenge for communities like ours,” said **Iberia Parish President M. Larry Richard**. “Our costs are significant in dealing with tire disposal as we have to redirect our resources to remove tires, particularly in areas that impact our infrastructure. This new pilot program will provide much-needed financial support, and it demonstrates LDEQ’s commitment to helping local governments address this problem.”

The Waste Tire Pilot Program is another example of LDEQ’s efforts to work collaboratively with local governments to solve problems under the leadership of Governor Landry. It reflects a renewed commitment to addressing longstanding environmental challenges with practical, community-centered solutions. Eligible uses of funds from the Waste Tire Pilot Program may include:

- equipment purchases related to cleanup or prevention;
- costs for municipal or parish workers handling enforcement or collection, installation of barriers and fencing; and
- cleanup of newly discovered illegal-dump sites, among others.



“The collaboration between the parish presidents and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality represents a significant step forward in addressing the longstanding issue of waste tire accumulation across our parishes,” echoed **Meg Bankston, Executive Director of the Parish Presidents of Louisiana**. “The availability of grant funding through the Waste Tire Pilot Program presents a vital opportunity to enhance environmental stewardship and improve waste tire management. We are committed to leveraging this partnership to make a lasting, positive impact throughout the state.”

## HOW TO APPLY

Municipalities and parishes interested in applying must submit a brief proposal or list of projects explaining how you plan to use the reimbursed funds to combat unauthorized waste tire disposal within your jurisdiction. Proposals will be reviewed by LDEQ, and selected recipients will enter into a formal intergovernmental agreement with the agency.

Submit your proposals beginning May 1, 2025, to:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Financial Services Division  
ATTN: Michelle Barnett  
P.O. Box 4303  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4303

## KEY DATES

- Applications open: May 1, 2025
- Program launch: July 1, 2025
- Deadline to submit receipts: May 31, 2026
- Program ends: June 30, 2026

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about the program or how to apply, contact Dutch Donlon, Office of Environmental Services, at [Lewis.Donlon@la.gov](mailto:Lewis.Donlon@la.gov) (225) 219-3388.



To learn more about LDEQ's environmental programs, visit [www.deq.louisiana.gov](http://www.deq.louisiana.gov).

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### About the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

LDEQ is dedicated to serving the people of Louisiana by providing comprehensive environmental protection to promote and protect health, safety, and welfare.

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