

For Immediate Release: March 6, 2025

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The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Addresses Waste Tire Crisis with Community Insights

LDEQ Baton Rouge, LA — The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has unveiled a pivotal report stemming from its recently concluded statewide *Waste Tire Community Town Hall Tour*. The initiative, championed by LDEQ Secretary Aurelia S. Giacometto, represents a collaborative effort that engaged various stakeholders, including the Governor's Office of Rural Revitalization, the Keep Louisiana Beautiful program led by Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, and local elected officials.

The tour, encompassing six regional town halls; provided a platform for LDEQ to connect directly with communities across the state. It facilitated the gathering of invaluable input on the pressing environmental challenges posed by waste tires. Through these dialogues, LDEQ aims to identify practical, community-driven solutions that address this growing concern.

"Louisianans take pride in keeping the Sportsman's Paradise a clean and safe place to hunt, fish, and raise a family," **said Governor Jeff Landry**. "Tackling the waste tire issue is a top priority and a critical step in maintaining our environment for future generations."

"The feedback we received will be vital in helping us to focus our efforts where they are needed most," **Secretary Giacometto remarked**. "These forums are instrumental in developing a comprehensive strategy that incorporates best practices, regulatory enhancements, and fosters collaboration to incentivize proper disposal and work with other authorities to combat and deter illegal tire dumping efficiently."

"This report shows that issues that are felt statewide can best be resolved by starting at the local level," **said Meg Bankston, Executive Director Parish Presidents of Louisiana.** "Reaching out to communities most deeply affected is always a vital step toward helping address issues that touch everyone in Louisiana."

As concerns about environmental hazards continue to rise, the findings from this initiative will play a crucial role in shaping the department's forthcoming actions and polices. It is a call to action for citizens to join in the fight against waste tire pollution, ensuring a cleaner, safer Louisiana for future generations. The LDEQ is committed to engaging communities in meaningful ways to safeguard our environment and this report marks a significant step in that direction.

The report can be read online at: Waste Tire Town Hall Report







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