

## DEQ Guidance on Tire Baling Plans

**Regulatory Reference:** OAC 252:515-21-111

**Applicability.** Units of local or county government who will seek reimbursement from the Waste Tire Indemnity Fund for using baled waste tires in engineering projects approved by the DEQ.

**Purpose.** To provide guidance for development of waste tire baling plans.

**Technical Discussion.** Before baled waste tires can be incorporated into an engineering project, the unit of local or county government must obtain a DEQ approved plan for use of the tires in the project. DEQ approval does NOT relieve the local or county government from ensuring the project will be in compliance with any other federal, state, or local requirements, including requirements of other DEQ divisions.

### Plan Components

OAC 252:515-21-111(a) identifies several components to be included within waste tire baling plans.

1. *The location at which waste tire baling operations will be performed*

**The plan should include:**

- the location at which tire baling operations will be performed;
- the project site owner name, address, and phone number;
- a legal description of the project site by section, township, and range; metes and bounds; or book and page number of plat records;
- the latitude and longitude of the project site; and
- finding directions to the project site;

2. *A description of the engineering project for which the baled tires will be used*

**The plan should include:**

- a rationale for using tire bales in the design;
- a scale drawing of the site showing the areas where the baled tires will be placed and any structures (including wells) within 500 feet of the site;
- complete engineering design drawings for the project;
- specifications of tire bales (i.e. bale dimensions and method of binding individual bales);
- the number of tires by type (i.e. number of tires with a rim diameter < 17 1/2 inches, and the number of tires with a rim diameter > 17 1/2 inches) that will be used in the project; and
- the method of joining bales to other bales to ensure adjacent bales are tightly interlocked;
- erosion control measures to prevent in-place soils from washing away from the bales;
- steps that will be taken to minimize the potential for fires or harboring mosquitoes, rodents, or other vermin; and
- an annual inspection requirement for maintenance and repair, as necessary.

**Additional requirements:**

- tires and/or bales should not be contaminated with other waste;
- bales should be permanent and perform as well as or better than the material the tires will be replacing;<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For instance, the plans should consider temperature (e.g. freeze-thaw cycles) and hydraulic principles to ensure the final constructed project will be permanent.

- bales should be placed or stacked in an overlapping pattern of both the long dimension and the horizontal stacked dimension;
  - bale confinement structures should be as durable as the baled tires; and
  - bale voids should be filled with soil prior to placement of additional bales.
3. *The approximate date construction will begin and the estimated time to complete the project*
  4. *Plans for aesthetic enhancement in accordance with OAC 252:515-3-37*
- If the aesthetic enhancement includes establishing vegetation, the plan should ensure:**
- the project will be covered with at least three feet of soil capable of maintaining vegetation after completion;
  - final soil cover is seeded, sprigged, or sodded within the first growing season. Seed used to establish vegetation should meet the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry Limitations on Noxious Weed Seeds found at OAC 35:30-25-4. Appendix 1 is a copy of this regulation;
  - vegetation is of equal or superior utility to native plants during each growing season of the year; and
  - other forms of aesthetic enhancement are incorporated as needed, such as berms, fences, shrubbery, trees, etc.
5. *Engineering designs must be signed and stamped or sealed by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Oklahoma*
  6. *Documentation must be submitted showing the plan has been approved by the local government for projects sponsored by a local government or the Board of County Commissioners for projects sponsored by a unit of county government*
  7. *A description of how compliance with OAC 252:515-21-112 will be achieved.*

#### **Other considerations**

- Only waste tires from tire dumps identified on the PCL or obtained from DEQ-approved community-wide clean up events may be used in the project.
- DEQ may require alterations to the plan prior to construction.
- No more than 50 bales may be accumulated prior to beginning construction.
- Any waste tires or bales not needed for the project must be disposed in a permitted disposal facility, or recycled in another DEQ approved manner.
- A project completion report in accordance with OAC 252:515-21-112(b) must be submitted at the conclusion of project construction.
- All records related to the project must be maintained by the governmental entity for a period of at least 3 years after completion.