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MMSB Launches Residential Fall Used Tire Collection Pilot Program

Is your shed, basement or garage full of old tires? If so, it's now a lot easier to let go! Throughout the month of September, the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board (MMSB), in partnership with select municipalities and retailers throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, is hosting 12 used tire drop-off events and five curbside collection days.

"MMSB's Used Tire Recycling Program provides the residents of Newfoundland and Labrador with a safe and convenient way to properly dispose of used tires," said the Honourable Terry French, Minister of Environment and Conservation and the Minister Responsible for the MMSB. "We all have a responsibility to reduce, reuse and recycle as a means of protecting Newfoundland and Labrador's environment for future generations. I encourage everyone to do their part by properly disposing of used tires through one of MMSB's drop-off days or curbside collection events."

The purpose of the Residential Used Tire Pilot Collection Program is to provide MMSB with valuable insight as to the potential number of tires that are stored in people's homes; this will help guide future improvements to the Used Tire Recycling Program. In addition, the Pilot Program will help alleviate pressures felt by tire retailers throughout Newfoundland and Labrador who collect used tires as part of the Used Tire Recycling Program on a daily basis.

"MMSB is always looking for new ways to expand and improve its existing waste diversion and recycling programs in an effort to make them more accessible and convenient for the residents of Newfoundland and Labrador," said Leigh Puddester, Chair and Chief Executive Officer, MMSB. "This pilot program not only represents an opportunity to improve the accessibility of tire recycling, but it also allows us to collect tires that we otherwise would not capture from households."

The tire drop-off days and curbside events are taking place throughout the month of September and are free of charge. Highway tires including passenger, light truck, commercial truck and motorcycle tires are all

accepted through the Pilot Program. ATV, dirt bike tires and farm, industrial and construction tires are not accepted.

In addition to the Pilot Program, residents can leave their used tires, at no cost, with a tire retailer upon the purchase of new tires or they can be returned to a tire retailer at a later date in manageable quantities (4-5 tires) during the retailer's normal business hours. Used tires must be in whole form, free of mud or debris, and must have their rims removed prior to being returned to a tire retailer.

In 2011, MMSB collected and diverted closed to 400,000 used tires from waste disposal sites throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, bringing the total number of tires diverted from landfills to just over 3.3 million since the program began in 2002.

Specific dates and locations for the drop-off collection events and curbside pick-up days will be advertised locally. A complete schedule of events and a detailed list of materials accepted through the program are also available on the MMSB's website at www.mmsb.nl.ca.

The MMSB is a Crown agency of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. MMSB supports modern waste management practices in the province with a particular focus on waste diversion and recycling in order to ensure a clean and healthy environment throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

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