

Office of Land Quality / Compliance Branch

2026 Waste Tire Grant Frequently Asked Questions

IDEM has a dedicated webpage for the Waste Tire Grant featuring informational webinar recordings, forms, and more.

Visit: idem.IN.gov/waste/waste-industries/waste-tire-management/waste-tire-grants

Eligibility and Application Questions

When is the grant application period?

The application period is Dec. 15, 2025, through Jan. 17, 2026. We are unable to accept submissions outside the application period.

When is the grant period?

The grant period for 2026 is from the date of last signature on the grant contract going forward 18 months.

Where is the application located?

You can download the application and other grant forms from [IDEM's Forms webpage](#) or use these links for the application: [57241 \[DOC\]](#), [57241 \[PDF\]](#)

Where do I send the completed application?

WasteTireGrants@idem.IN.gov

What do I do if I have issues signing the application form electronically?

You may print, sign, and email the scanned document to IDEM.

How much are the grant awards? Is there a maximum award amount?

SWMDs can request a grant for up to a maximum amount of \$10,000.

Is a match required for this grant?

There is no required match for this grant program. The grant is paid 100%, but you must fund your efforts first and then submit the necessary documentation for reimbursement.

What are the selection criteria?

Grants will be awarded to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis until \$300,000 is awarded.

When will the funds be awarded?

Funds will be awarded after both parties complete and sign the Grant Agreement. IDEM will notify grant recipients of their award by March 30, 2026.

When will the grant applications be reviewed, and can we attend the meeting to learn more about the application review process?

We anticipate reviewing all grant applications by the end of February 2026. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so there will not be an opportunity to host a meeting.

Are recipients of other IDEM grants eligible to apply?

Yes, recipients can have more than one grant from IDEM.

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Can previous Waste Tire Grant awardees apply for 2026 grants?

Yes, previous Waste Tire Grant awardees are eligible to apply for grants in 2026 if they were awarded a grant in previous years. This allows SWMDs that received funding the prior year to seek additional support for their tire cleanup initiatives in the upcoming grant cycle.

- **Is it only for SWMDs or can municipalities and local governments apply?**
- **What if my county doesn't have a SWMD?**
- **Can a sanitation department within a SWMD apply if their city manages its waste or recycling through the county SWMD?**
- **Can a SWCD (Soil and Water Conservation District) apply for this grant?**

IDEM prioritizes SWMDs when selecting grant recipients. If a county does not have an SWMD, then another agency (e.g., a highway department or a health department) may apply at the county's discretion. However, only one grant will be awarded per county.

Are grants allowed for multi-county districts?

Only one grant is allowed per SWMD. If multiple counties are part of one SWMD, then the individual counties are not eligible to apply.

What registration number do we need to provide for waste tire processors, transporters, and storage sites listed on our application?

We are looking for the registration number issued to them by IDEM indicating that they registered with the State. The numbers will be in the following format: XXX-T-XXXXX, XXX-S-XXXXX, or XXX-P-XXXXX. Visit IDEM's website for a list of processors and their permit numbers, idem.IN.gov/waste/files/permits_issued_reg_facilities_waste_tire.pdf

Should I list more than one transporter on the application?

If you have only contracted with a transporter, your application should include the tires' final destination (e.g., processor, landfill, recycler).

Can I use a solid waste processor instead of a registered waste tire facility?

Yes. A solid waste processor permit supersedes the registration required by waste tire facilities. If you use a solid waste processor, please put their Solid Waste Program ID# (format – XX-XX) on the grant application. A waste tire transporter may still be required.

Do I check self-processing if we are collecting the tire?

No, only check self-processing if you intend to cut up the tires before taking them to the final disposal facility.

Do we need to submit a cost estimate or a letter of support from a local government official with our application?

Cost information is requested on the application form. You can include a letter of support, but it is not required.

Where do I show workforce expenses on the application?

Expenses are not required on the application. The application requires a summary of your project, including a list of primary purchases and goals. See below regarding restrictions on workforce expenses.

Project and Program Questions

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What events and programs are eligible for funding?

This is for any waste tire event, one-time or ongoing, in your county that aims to keep tires out of the environment. This includes programs for residents, businesses, farms or throughout the community and one-time amnesty events. Please keep and submit detailed documentation showing the funds spent collecting, disposing, and recycling waste tires.

Can we partner with other organizations, such as county government or not-for-profits?

A SWMD may partner with another organization (please include details in the application). However, the grant will be awarded to the SWMD, which is responsible for complying with the grant terms.

What if there are multiple/different locations for the collections?

Multiple/different locations are acceptable; you need to document your plan and locations in your application.

Is this for stand-alone tire collection events or can funds be applied toward costs for the waste tire portion at a tox-away day?

If you are applying the funds toward part of a tox-away day, you must submit documentation detailing the cost of the tire portion of the event. Please see questions regarding workforce expenses below.

We currently accept tires for a fee. Could this grant allow us to take the tires at no charge or for a reduced charge?

Yes.

Could grant money be used at transfer stations to collect tires at a lesser cost temporarily?

Yes, for transfer stations owned by a SWMD/Grantee.

Is a large tire cleanup project on private property eligible?

Yes.

Can grant money be used to promote the event or program?

The grant can cover promotion costs up to \$500. The main use of grant funds should be for the collecting, disposing, or recycling waste tires. Advertising or other promotion via media outlets, printing services, etc., is acceptable. Any funds spent on promotional materials such as printing supplies or social media marketing/outreach are reimbursable, provided there is sufficient documentation that 100% of the funds spent (up to \$500) were for the grant project.

Can grant money be used to cover workforce expenses (e.g., work done by highway department employees) or equipment rental?

Grant funds can pay for workers IF the current cost is not covered using tax dollars. For example, the cost of hiring someone for the event (i.e., a waste tire transporter/processor) is an eligible expense, but wages for SWMD staff are not.

Similarly, grant money cannot be used to cover fees for “renting” equipment bought with tax dollars (e.g., a bulldozer from the county highway department).

Is there a restriction on tire size?

This grant is for all sizes of tires and can include agricultural tires and tires on rims.

We are typically open for residents our county only. Can we accept tires from other counties?

Yes, however, tires from outside Indiana should not be accepted.

What is the typical cost of holding a one-day amnesty event using a tire processor?

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Processing costs vary, so IDEM is unable to provide an estimate. We recommend contacting SWMDs in your area to ask them about costs and recommendations.

What if the community supplies MORE waste tires than we expected? For example, what would happen if we budget for \$9,000, but the community brings in enough tires that the processor charges us \$12,000.

IDEM will only provide funds up to the grant amount awarded. You may want to incorporate advance registration to track the number of tires expected and stop taking registrations when the cap is reached.

Can we use a waste tire processor, transporter, and/or storage site currently subject to IDEM enforcement action?

Facilities with current, pending or outstanding criminal, civil, or enforcement actions initiated by the State are ineligible to receive grant monies, even if they are not the direct grant awardee. If you need clarification on an entity's status, you may email wastetiregrants@idem.IN.gov. If the entity listed on your application is subject to such actions, you may choose another service provider.

What do we need to do to use grant funding for a waste tire amnesty day?

Please comply with 329 IAC 15-1-(c).

Can we make changes to our application/plan after it has been submitted (e.g., change of processor)?

No changes to the application/plan should be made after submittal unless approved in writing by IDEM.

Expense/Reporting Questions

Is there a deadline to use the grant funding?

The grant period during which funds can be used (provided that both parties have signed the grant documents) is from the date of last signature going forward 18 months. The funds should be used with the 18-month period after signature. Deadlines for submitting expense reports and final reports are outlined in the Grant Agreement.

What do I need to submit to receive the awarded funds?

To receive reimbursement, submit the expense report along with appropriate documentation. An invoice from your agency to IDEM is also required in addition to the expense report. The invoice should include the grant number and a purchase order number. IDEM prefers to receive expense reports, invoices, and supplemental documentation electronically.

What are considered "major activities" in the report?

"Major activities" are the main items of your plan. Example: We hosted a tire event that collected X tires. Tires were picked up by X transporter and taken to X processor for disposal and/or recycling. We created flyers and social media posts to advertise the event.

Should the expenditure report include copies of canceled checks?

Appropriate documentation showing that funds have been spent on allowable expenses should be submitted to IDEM. Allowable expenses include event promotion (up to \$500) and collecting, disposing and recycling tires.

Can I pay expenses with a credit card instead of a check?

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The expense report requires only proof of payment. If a method other than a check is used, submit the appropriate documentation demonstrating that the awardee paid the expense.

Do I need to report “in-kind” expenses?

Reporting “in-kind” expenses is not required. You must submit an expense report with appropriate documentation (receipts and proof of payments) showing funds were spent by the grantee on eligible reimbursable expenses such as promotion (up to \$500), collection, disposal, and/or recycling tires.

Can the funds from two waste tire grants be used to cover the same waste tire event?

Yes, but you would need to submit separate waste tire expense reports for each grant and state the amount that should be applied to each grant. You can use the same proof of payment and associated documents for both expense reports.