

Scrap tire grants available for tracks, trails, surfacing projects and playgrounds
Apply to the Department of Natural Resources by Nov. 14 or Jan. 20

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Oct. 12, 2011 – To help Missourians experience the great outdoors, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is offering two different Scrap Tire Surface Material Grants for fiscal year 2012. Whether you are interested in a leisurely stroll, a power walk or an aerobic run, or letting the children enjoy time on the playground, the scrap tire grants may be just the boost needed to improve your area of the state.

The department is offering a new Non-playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grant this year. This grant will help promote the use of recycled scrap tires for running tracks, walking trails, equine stalls/riding areas or other similar surfacing projects not including playgrounds. Non-playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grant recipients requesting mats or pour-in-place surface material will be eligible for a grant award up to \$100,000 while those requesting loose surface material will be eligible for a grant award up to \$50,000. Mailed applications for Non-playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grants must be postmarked by Nov. 14, 2011. Hand-delivered applications must arrive at the department by 5 p.m. on Nov. 14, 2011.

The department is also continuing its popular Playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grant this year. This grant will help promote the use of recycled scrap tires for playground cover or surfacing material. Playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grant recipients requesting mats or pour-in-place surface material will be eligible for a grant award up to \$20,000 while those requesting loose surface material will be eligible for a grant award up to \$10,000. Mailed applications for Playground Scrap Tire Surface Material Grants must be postmarked by Jan. 20, 2011. Hand-delivered applications must arrive at the department by 5 p.m. on Jan. 20, 2011.

Approximately \$400,000 is available to fund these scrap tire material grants. Public schools, private schools, parks, non-profit day care centers, other non-profit organizations and governmental organizations other than state agencies, are eligible to submit applications. The department has awarded more than \$2 million in Scrap Tire Material Grants to 334 organizations since the grants were first made available in 1994.

Preference will be given to applicants planning to use mats or pour-in-place materials. All grant recipients will be required to purchase scrap tire material from manufacturers who use at least 40 percent Missouri generated scrap tires in their material.

The source of funds for this grant program is the 50-cent-per-tire fee collected on the sale of new tires in Missouri. The fee also finances cleanup of scrap tire dumps, permitting, inspections and enforcement activities. The 50-cent fee was extended by the legislature during the 2009 session and is set to expire in 2015.

Applications and instructions are available on the department's Website at dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirefinassistance.htm. For more information contact the department's Scrap Tire Unit at 800-361-4827 or 573-526-3909.