

EPA Waste Tyre Compliance Blitz

Dear member

Please be advised that the Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPAV) is undertaking snap inspections on businesses who are suspected of illegally transporting or storing waste tyres throughout May and June 2023.

Under the General Environmental Duty (GED), which came into effect on 1 July 2021, everyone has a duty to minimise as far as reasonably practicable the risk of harm from pollution or waste. The Environment Protection Regulations 2021 classify waste tyres as reportable priority waste and producers of priority waste must arrange for their waste to be transported and deposited legally. This means that producers of waste tyres must use [Waste Tracker](#) to report the movement of their waste.

Tyres that are poorly stored or managed pose a significant risk to the environment. Degrading tyres leach contaminants to the environment and become havens to weeds and pests. Tyre fires are particularly difficult because of the harmful smoke they emit and how hard they are to extinguish.

The EPA will be targeting businesses identified through the Waste Tracker system as potentially non-compliant with their tracking obligations.

EPA Metropolitan Melbourne Regional Director, Rachel Gualano said that Waste Tracker tracks waste through every step of its journey; from the generator, to the transporter through to the end user or disposal point. If there's a gap in the Waste Tracker trail, EPA can see it and use that intel to pinpoint where along that journey the trail breaks. Which is how we have a good understanding of which businesses to prioritise in the upcoming waste tyre inspection program.

"EPA has cleaned up several tyre stockpiles over the years, but it's at a cost to the community when it should be the responsibility of the person or business that took in the tyres in the first place," Ms Gualano said.

"Our inspection campaign will enforce the use of Waste Tracker as a compulsory system for the transport of Reportable Priority Waste. If we find that businesses aren't compliant, we will take further regulatory action."

For more information, visit epa.vic.gov.au

How to get Waste Tracker

Producers must complete the following to start using Waste Tracker:

- Sign up to create a portal account. Waste Tracker users must sign up to the Portal on EPA's website. You will need an individual email address to sign up.
- Complete the [Waste Tracker business sign up form](#). This form lets the EPA know the users to link to your business account. Once linked, users can create records for your business. This also allows waste producers to see the full list of waste records linked to their business account created by themselves and others.

For more information on working with waste records and arranging waste tyre collections click [here](#).

John Khoury
Industry Policy Advisor