

Media Release

11 February 2022

Local Victorian communities to benefit from new partnership to stop the illegal dumping and stockpiling of used tyres

Tyre Stewardship Australia (TSA) and Keep Victoria Beautiful (KVB) are joining forces to help the Litter Enforcement Officer Network (LEON) tackle illegal dumping and stockpiling of waste tyres in local environments.

Each year, in Victoria alone, approximately 120,000 tonnes of tyres reach end of life. With the recent export ban on whole and baled tyres, there are concerns we may see increased dumping of tyres in parks, creeks, leased factories or on private land, as the tyre industry adjusts to changes in the market and increased cost pressures exacerbated by COVID.

In making the announcement today, TSA CEO, Lina Goodman said: “Litter enforcement officers are on the ground, in every community, every day working against illegal waste dumping in Victoria; and they’ve told us that tyre stockpiling is becoming a challenging issue.”

“We want to support the efforts of the Litter Enforcement Officer Network by increasing the exchange of intelligence between our organisations, so litter enforcement officers are well-equipped to raise awareness of the issue in their local area.

“In turn, TSA will learn from LEON members’ valuable local knowledge of emerging trends and rogue operators, which will help us further develop sustainable outcomes for end-of-life tyres that work for everyone.

“We believe that it’s only by working together with the people on the ground, that we can reduce the social and environmental burden of tyre waste for future generations. The partnership allows TSA to remain agile and act quickly on the intelligence provided by the litter enforcement officers. We are very proud to be working with KVB and the highly-respected LEON members to do just that.”

Communities, councils and regulators can support KVB and local LEON members in tackling the tyre waste problem, by:

- Using the ‘dumped tyres’ category in SNAPSENDSOLVE app to report tyre pollution
- Buying tyres from retailers accredited with TSA
- Using collectors and recyclers accredited with TSA

KVB Acting Executive Officer, Samuel Lawson supports the partnership: “As leaders in illegal waste management, Keep Victoria Beautiful welcomes further collaboration with Tyre Stewardship Australia through the Litter Enforcement Officer Network.

“This partnership will reduce illegal waste and boost sustainable outcomes for end of life tyres by connecting TSA with hundreds of officers working on the ground, plus build relationships with our state regulatory partners to strengthen intelligence sharing.

“We look forward to Keeping Victoria Beautiful and anticipate some fantastic achievements through this partnership.”

ABOUT TYRE STEWARDSHIP AUSTRALIA

Tyre Stewardship Australia (TSA) was established in 2014 to implement the national Tyre Product Stewardship Scheme (TSS), an ACCC authorised industry framework to reduce the environmental, health and safety impacts of the 56 million Equivalent Passenger Units (EPUs) which reach the end of their life in Australia each year.

TSA’s vision is of a circular economy for EOL tyres which contributes to a sustainable society.

It works to drive sustainable outcomes for EOL tyres in Australia, by:

- accrediting participants, including tyre retailers, manufacturers, recyclers and collectors, who are committed to supporting the objectives of the Scheme
- investing in market development initiatives including research and development, and commercialisation, of new productive uses for EOL tyres
- driving the transformation of a waste product into a useful commodity, creating new industries and jobs while reducing the environmental harm caused by the illegal dumping of old tyres

For more information about Australia’s Tyre Product Stewardship Scheme and TSA:

<https://www.tyrestewardship.org.au/about-tsa/scheme/>

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