Frequently Asked Questions about Tire Sales & Disposal

**Question:** If a new tire customer wants to keep the tires that were on their vehicle because they are still in good condition, does the tire retailer still have to charge them a disposal fee for the new tires purchased?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question:** If a new tire customer does not exchange a used tire at the time of purchase of a new tire from a retailer, can the customer turn in a used tire for disposal to the same retailer at a later time without paying another disposal fee?

**Answer:** Yes, however the customer must check with the retailer at the time of purchase if there are conditions to acceptance (*time period allowed, proof of purchase, etc.*)

**Question:** Do tire wholesalers have to charge a disposal fee on new tire sales?

**Answer:** No, but they are required to accept used tires from their customers.

**Question:** Does a disposal fee have to be charged on the sale of a re-treaded tire?

**Answer:** No.

**Question:** Does a disposal fee have to be charged on the sale of a used tire?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question:** If a retailer/wholesaler only sells used tires are they required to accept tires for disposal?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question:** Please clarify the definition of “volume buyers” in the definition of “tire wholesaler” in H.R.S. §342I-21.

**Answer:** The Hawai‘i State Department of Health interprets “volume buyers” to include end users purchasing for a fleet(s) of cars (i.e., car manufacturers, car rental companies). *This interpretation applies only to this law.*
**Question:** Please clarify the definition of a “new tire” in the definition of “new” in H.R.S. §342I-21-23(a)(2).

**Answer:** The Hawai’i State Department of Health interprets “new” as meaning “new” in ownership. A used tire purchased by a consumer is “new” to that consumer. The term “new” covers both a physically brand new, unused tire, and a used tire, purchased by a consumer.

**Question:** How does a customer know how much they paid for the tire disposal fee?

**Answer:** State law requires “Any advertising pertaining to the price of motor vehicle tires shall disclose whether a separate disposal fee may be added to the final price of the tire and the actual cost of the disposal fee.”