

National View of End-of-Life Tire Management: Practices and Policies in the U.S.

Amelia Chucholowski, USTMA May 1, 2025

About the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association

The U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA) is the national trade association for tire manufacturers that produce tires in the U.S. U.S. tire manufacturing has an annual economic footprint of \$170.6 billion and is responsible for more than 291,000 U.S. jobs in manufacturing, distribution and retailing.

More information can be found at https://www.ustires.org/.























USTMA Sustainability Vision

- USTMA members have the goal that all ELT's enter sustainable and circular end use markets.
- USTMA's 2023 End-of-Life Tire Market Summary report measures our progress towards meeting our sustainability vision

U.S. ELT Generation 2023

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Tire Class	Millions of Tires	Market %	Average Weight (lbs)	Weight (thousands of tons)
Light Duty Tires	267	87.7%	25.0	3,334
Passenger tire replacements	219	72.1%		
Light truck tire replacements	34	11.3%		
Tires from scrapped vehicles	13	4.3%		
Commercial Tires	37	12.3%	120.0	2,238
Medium, wide base, heavy truck replacement tires	21	6.8%		
Tires from scrapped trucks and buses	17	5.4%		
Total tires hauled	304	100.0%	36.7	5,572
Used tires culled	40	13.2%	36.7	735
Net scrap tires	264			4,836



U.S. ELT Disposition 2023

Market or Disposition	Thousands of Tons	Millions of Tires	% change 2021 - 2023	
Tire-Derived Fuel	1,546	84	10.9%	
Cement Kilns	784	43	15.0%	
Paper & Pulp	562	31	7.2%	
Electric Utilities	200	11	6.5%	
Ground Rubber	1,339	73	-4.8%	
Civil Engineering	264	14	-4.5%	
Exported	253	14	189.4%	
Electric Arc Furnace	70	4	14.2%	
Reclamation Projects	40	2	-15.8%	
Agricultural	*	*		
Baled Tires/ Market	*	*		
Punched/ Stamped	*	*		
Other	289	16	-5.4%	
Total to Market	3,801	207	6.2%	
Generated	4,836	264	-3.9%	
% to Market/ Utilized	79%	79%	10.5%	
Land Disposed	874	48	19.3%	

^{*}Included in "Other" Market category



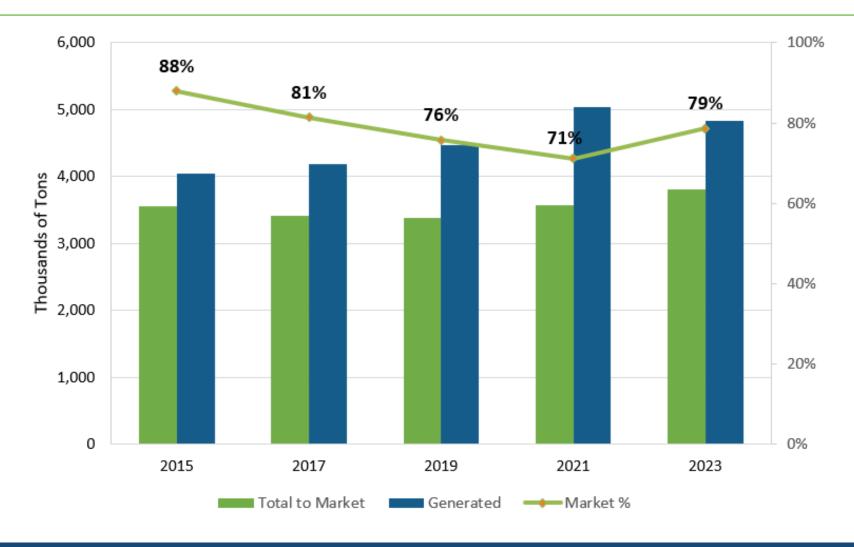
U.S. ELT Market Summary 2015 - 2023

Market or Disposition (thousands of tons)	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023
Tire Derived Fuel	1,923	1,736	1,647	1,394	1,546
Ground Rubber	1,021	1,013	1,089	1,407	1,339
Land Disposed	451	647	680	733	874
Civil Engineering	275	316	226	276	264
Exported	102	110	138	87	253
Reclamation Projects	53	44	40	48	40
Electric Arc Furnace	26	39	61	61	70
Baled Tires/ Market	9	15	10	*	*
Punched/ Stamped	41	23	10	*	*
Agricultural	7	7	20	*	*
Other	95	108	138	306	289
Total to Market	3,551	3,411	3,379	3,579	3,801
Generated	4,039	4,189	4,464	5,031	4,836
% to Market/ Utilized	88%	81%	76%	71%	79%
% Managed (incl. baled and landfilled tires)	99%	97%	91%	86%	97%

^{*}Included in "Other" Market category

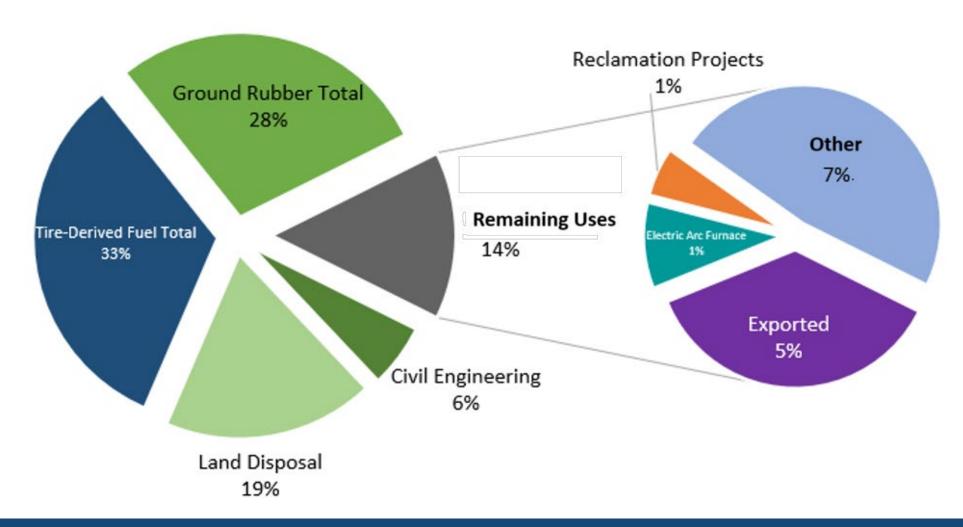


U.S. End-Of-Life Tire Market Trends 2015 - 2023



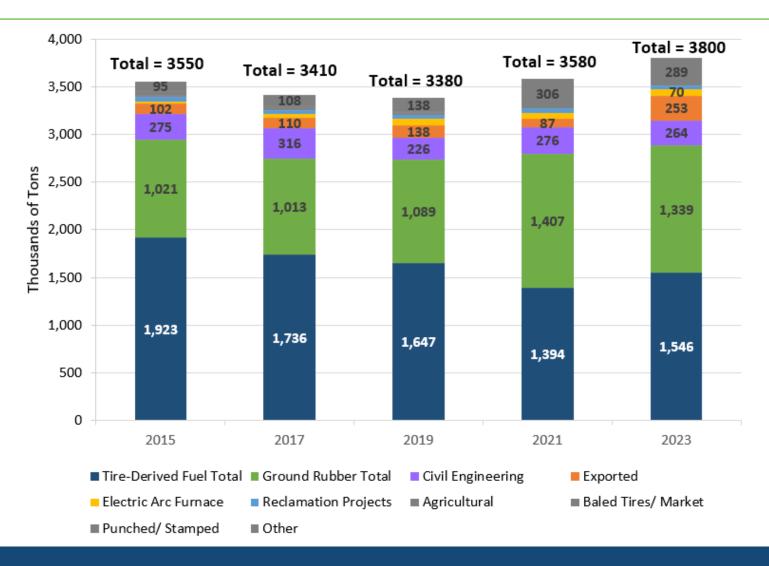


U.S. ELT Disposition 2023



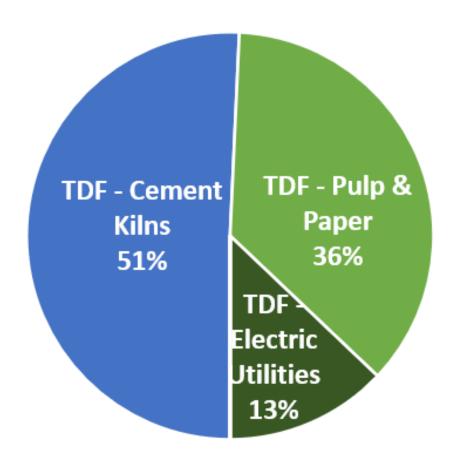


U.S. ELT Market Trends 2015 - 2023



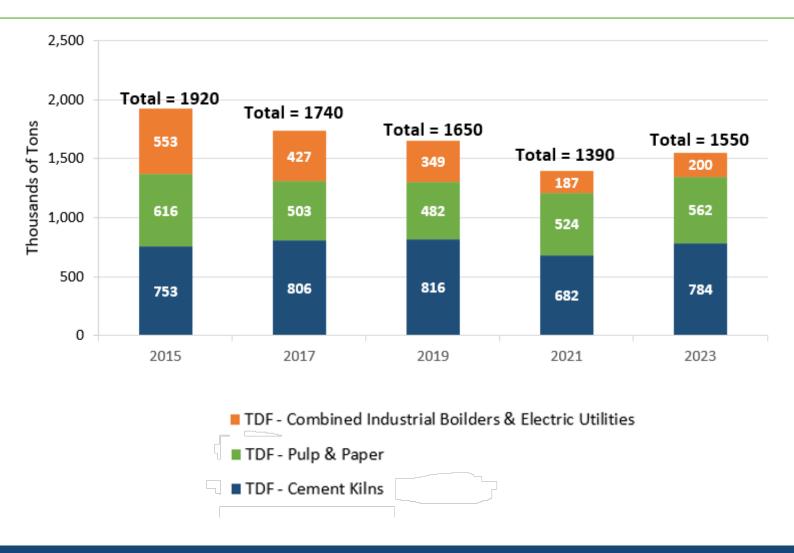


U.S. Tire Derived Fuel Markets 2023



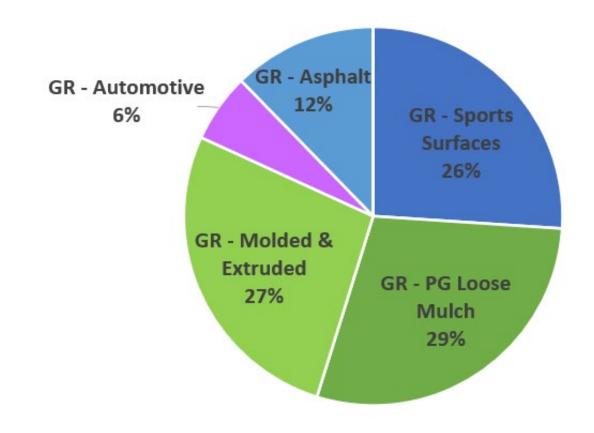


U.S. Tire Derived Fuel Market Trends 2015 - 2023



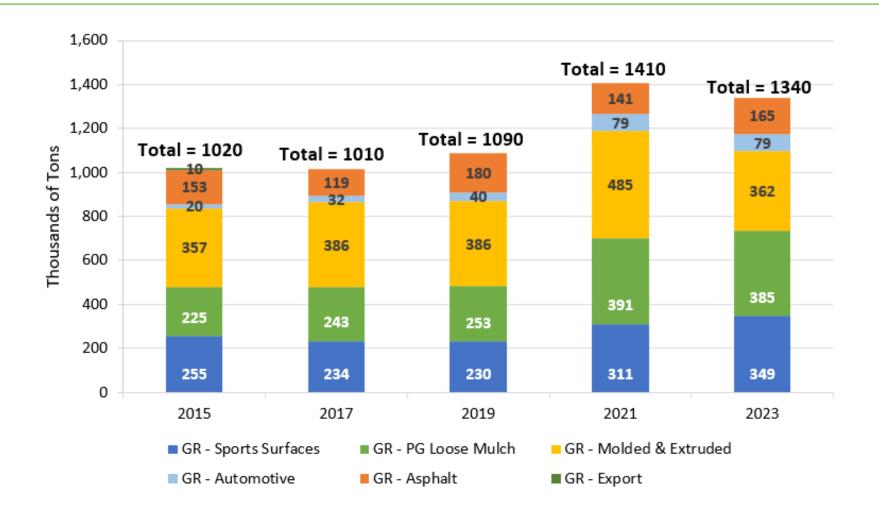


U.S. Ground Rubber Markets 2023



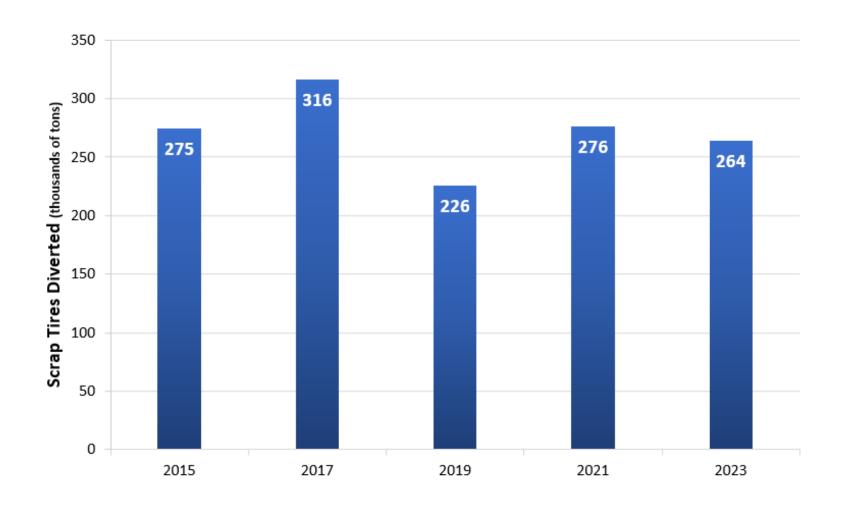


U.S. Ground Rubber Market Distribution 2015 - 2023





U.S. Civil Engineering Markets 2015 - 2023





Other Emerging Trends

Pyrolysis

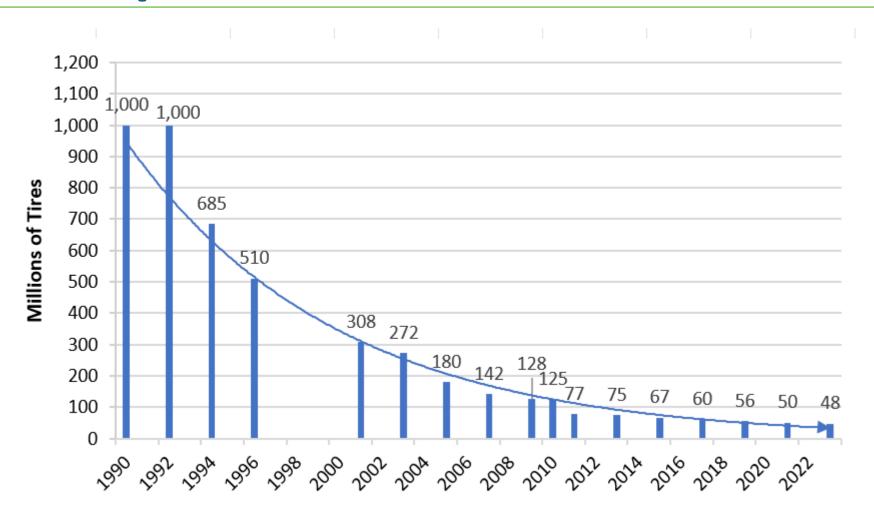
- Used to create recycled carbon black, a silica used in tire production
- Less 1% of tire reclamation and recycling

Devulcanization

- Reverses the "vulcanization" of rubber, recycling it so that it can be vulcanized again
- Process converts rubber waste into a new "virgin" raw material
- Less 1% of tire reclamation and recycling

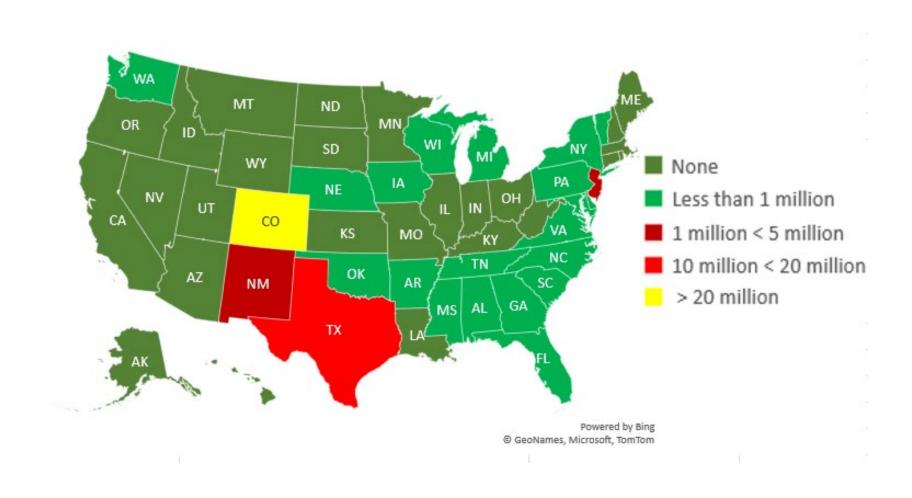


U.S. Stockpiled ELT's 1990 - 2023





Stockpiled Tires Remaining in the U.S.





The Tire Recycling Foundation (TRF)



About TRF

The Tire Recycling Foundation is a broad based whole value chain initiative, led by the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association and the Tire Industry Association, committed to securing funding and allocating grants for research, education, intervention and demonstration projects targeting critical gaps within the tire recycling supply chain across the United States.



tirerecyclingfoundation.org





TRF's Mission

TRF's primary goal is to recycle 100% of end-of-life tires into circular, sustainable markets. We are poised to play a pivotal role in expanding tire reuse markets and is actively advancing its mission, fundraising efforts, governance, research and programming.



Expanding Tire Reuse Markets





Supporting Research through Fundraising

Waste Tire Disposal in DC

- Proper Disposal of Waste Tires
 - Drop off at Fort Totten Transfer Station (DC resident)
 - Disposal fees range from \$2 \$5
 - Benning Road Transfer Station
 - Remodeled for 2028
 - Schedule pick-up with Tire Hauler company
 - https://www.couserhauling.com/tire-removal.html
 - https://goloadup.com/washington-dc/tire-disposal/
- Prohibited:
 - Open dumping or burning of tires
 - Illegal due to health and environmental risks
 - Improper storage
 - Tires must be stored in a manner that prevents water accumulation, which can breed mosquitos



Waste Tire Cleanup and Reporting in DC

Cleanup and Reporting

- Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP), managed by the Department of Public Works (DPW)
 - Investigates and addresses illegal dumping
 - Residents can report illegal dumping by calling 311 or visiting the DPW website https://doee.dc.gov/service/dumpbusters

DumpBusters initiative

 Collaboration between DOEE, DPW, MPD, focuses on cleaning up illegal dump sites, especially those affecting waterways. The program also engages in community outreach and enforces anti-dumping laws.



Key Takeaways

- Tire Recycling as a Pillar of Sustainability
- Innovation Driving New Market Opportunities
- Infrastructure Solutions via RMA

- End-of-Life Tire Stockpile Elimination
- Collaboration with Federal, State, and Local Partners

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

REPORT PAGE: 2023 ELT TIRE REPORT PAGE | USTMA

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