



O K L A H O M A
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

...for a clean, attractive, prosperous Oklahoma

707 North Robinson, P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-1677

News Release

For Immediate Release: March 29, 2013

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Town of Optima Recognized as Clean Community

A special ceremony is scheduled for 1 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2013, to recognize the town of Optima as an Oklahoma Clean Community. Recently, Optima cleaned up approximately 7,000 tires as part of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Used Tire Recycling Program. The ceremony will be held at 107 E. 5th St. in Optima.

Since July 1, 2011, the Used Tire Recycling Program has focused primarily on legacy tire dumps and those that pose a threat to the public's health and the environment. DEQ's remediation efforts have reduced the number of tires in all dumps to about half of what was estimated to be in existence prior to 2011.

DEQ encourages entities to coordinate a community-wide cleanup of used tires. DEQ's Tire Indemnity Fund will pay to haul off old, unused, or abandoned tires. Tire piles can be an eyesore and attract unwelcome pests, such as mosquitoes and rodents. After cleanup is complete, DEQ will recognize an entity as an Oklahoma Clean Community.

The tires removed from Optima were transported to a recycling facility for further processing. Optima's cooperation in this project has made it a "Clean Community."

More information on the Used Tire Recycling Program is available at <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/lpdnew/TireRecyclingPrg.htm> or by contacting Ferrella March at ferrella.march@deq.ok.gov or 405-702-5175.

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