



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA

WASTING YOUR TAX DOLLARS

Two of our nation's largest waste tire monofills and millions of waste tires are dumped in tire piles scattered throughout our state. They pose serious risks to our communities and it is important to continue working on additional recycling solutions with the money consumers pay into the waste tire program. As I work with stakeholders from El Paso County and throughout the state, I will continue to highlight some of the flaws in the waste tire program and offer solutions that address the risks to our communities and additional incentives for Colorado businesses.

Presently \$.50 of the \$1.50 fee (tax) paid on the purchase of each new tire goes to fund science grants in higher education and general recycling, ***not waste tire projects!*** Over 1/3 of the fees consumers pay on new tires to recycle the old tires ends up going to other programs. To add insult to injury, the Governor has hijacked the waste tire funds to balance the budget.

Current state policy requires tire dealers to print the following notice on their receipts, "COLORADO REVISED STATUTES REQUIRES RETAILERS TO COLLECT \$1.50 *WASTE TIRE RECYCLING DEVELOPMENT FEE* ON THE SALE OF EACH NEW MOTOR VEHICLE TIRE". Clearly, it ***does not say*** the State of Colorado will collect your \$1.50 for balancing the budget, funding higher education or recycling Dixie cups, pop cans and cardboard boxes!

On top of this appalling misuse of funds the Colorado Dept. of Revenue is requiring dealers to charge a **2.9% Sales Tax** on top of the \$1.50 waste tire fee! This is another sneaky and cunning way for government to collect an additional \$217,000 of revenue. The \$217,000 of new revenue is all being generated from **TAXING A FEE!**

Years ago special interest groups convinced elected officials to divert dollars from the waste tire fund for other purposes. I believe using the waste tire fee on other programs instead of recycling waste tires is deceiving and possibly unconstitutional! In the upcoming session we have an opportunity to change that policy. I plan on sponsoring legislation to repeal the 2.9 sales tax on the \$1.50 waste tire fee; repeal the diversion of the waste tire funds to higher education and general recycling, and bring honesty, accountability and oversight to a badly broken program. This legislation will provide additional protection for our communities and incentives for local and Colorado businesses to properly recycle the waste tires in our county and throughout the state. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and call or email if you have any questions or comments.

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