



# GIVING TIRES A SECOND LIFE

## THEY DON'T HAVE TO WASTE AWAY IN A DUMP

They can be reused as is around the home and garden or be professionally recycled and become something new.

## WHY RECYCLE

- Abandoned tires can be breeding grounds for mosquitos & other pests.
- Tire fires produce acid smoke that leaves an oily residue & are not extinguishable.
- Tires take up a lot of space in landfills & create the potential for injuries or death for the workers.



## HOW ARE TIRES RECYCLED INTO NEW PRODUCTS?

The tires are typically shredded or ground using a tire shredder. These shredders use powerful knives to rip and tear the tire into small pieces. Some by-products of the tire — such as fiber and steel — are separated and sold as a feedstock for other industries.

The rest of the shredded tire can be used for various purposes. If it is destined for tire-derived fuel, the material is sent to an incinerator, boiler or cement kiln, depending on the facility that will use the tire for energy. Other uses for shredded and ground tires include rubberized asphalt, playground mulch, road embankments, or even as material for new tires.



## HOW CAN TIRES BE USED AS IS?

Upcycling tires is a great alternative to recycling tires especially if you already have some around the house. Tires can leach toxic chemicals into the environment when exposed to the elements so it is important to not use tires for edible plant planters or to cover them in some way before use.

By covering tires in yarn, paint, or fabrics you can completely change their appearance and uses. For instance, if you wrap a tire in a sturdy yarn it can become an ottoman! Tires also make great planters or yard divider. The possibilities are virtually endless.

