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Senator Schaefer Announces Grant Opportunities

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Kurt Schaefer announces grant opportunities available from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the use of scrap tire material.

The grants, totaling approximately \$200,000, promote the use of recycled scrap tires for use in playgrounds, running tracks, walking trails and many other uses. Public schools, parks, nonprofit daycare centers or any nonprofit organizations other than state agencies are encouraged to apply for a grant.

"This grant program provides a great way for organizations to use recycled tires," Sen. Schaefer said. "Those who benefit from this program will help clear our landscapes from unsightly tire dumps and reuse this material in projects that support the whole community."

Preferences will be given to applicants using the material for mats or pour-inplace applications. The grants are awarded in \$10,000- or \$20,000-increments, depending on use.

The source for the funding comes from the 50-cent-per-tire fee collected from new tire sales in Missouri. The fee was extended in 2009 by the Missouri Legislature and is set to expire in 2015.

Applications for the grants are available at the DNR's website at dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirefinassistance.htm. For more information, contact the DNR's Scrap Tire Unit at 800-361-4827.