

Countywide Tire Collection Events Roll Forward



Los Angeles County Public Works resumed its free waste tire recycling events in late 2021 and are seeing an increased amount of waste tires being collected from the public. Events had been suspended during the COVID-19 Safer-at-Home Order in 2020. The aim of the program events is to help reduce illegal dumping of tires, and in 2022 the County strategically targeted more events for problem areas in the Los Angeles basin.

While illegal dumping of tires happens in the basin, it is a serious problem in the wide-open Antelope Valley (AV). However, the AV is fortunate to have community volunteers who gather and bring in truckloads of scrap tires to the events. During the first AV Event back on October 23, 2021, a total of 328 tons were collected in a single day, equivalent to 32,800 passenger tires, over double the usual amount.

The results could signify a pent-up demand, as a subsequent event held on April 30, 2022, during the annual AV Pride Month collected 172 tons in a single day. This amount was closer to, but still above average. Increases in demand may also be attributed to rising cost of processing waste tires.

Increased demand was also seen in the basin, as the tires collected during events there were above average while road maintenance crews have also been picking up more tires off streets and alleys. So much so that the County's contractor was having difficulties keeping up with the demand for roll-off containers at the twenty or so County and partner city yards.

Results of tire events held in 2022 are listed below. Tire events for 2023 are being planned, but will include Baldwin Park, Hawthorne, and the Antelope Valley.

- 02/26/22 in Baldwin Park – 3,390 tires
- 03/12/22 in East LA – 2,523 tires
- 04/20/22 in Antelope Valley – 17,200 tires
- 06/25/22 in South Whittier – 1,570 tires
- 08/20/22 in South Gate – 1,519 tires
- 10/22/22 in Antelope Valley – 10 trailers full

The tires collected are recycled into beneficial uses such as for playground applications or rubberized asphalt. For more information on the events, visit [CleanLA.com](https://www.CleanLA.com) or contact the County Program Manager, Mr. Wilson Fong at wfong@pw.lacounty.gov.