

Georgia EPD's Tire Management & Abatement Program

Lena Sassone, Recovered Materials & Abatement Program Manager
Georgia EPD, Land Protection Branch



RECOVERED MATERIALS & ABATEMENT PROGRAM



RECOVERED MATERIALS UNIT

Regulates material recovery permitting and administers Solid Waste Trust Fund projects.



TIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT

Regulates tire operations, responds to complaints of tire violations, and collects the Tire Management Fee



LEAD-BASED PAINT PROGRAM

Administers the Georgia Lead-Based Paint Hazard Management Program to minimize the spread of lead dust and debris



ASBESTOS PROGRAM

Administers the Georgia Asbestos Removal and Encapsulation Program by regulating activities that disturb asbestos

Recovered Materials and Abatement Program - Management Team



Lena Sassone
Program
Manager



Sarah Knapp
Recovered
Materials Unit
Manager



Timothy Carter
Tire
Management
Unit Manager



Allison Webb
Lead-based
paint &
Asbestos
Program
Manager



Tire Management Unit

The Tire Management Unit (TMU) is responsible for enforcing state regulations for scrap tire generators, used tire dealers, tire distributors, tire carriers, scrap tire sorters, and responding to complaints of illegal tire disposal sites.

<https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/recovered-materials-and-abatement/tire-management>

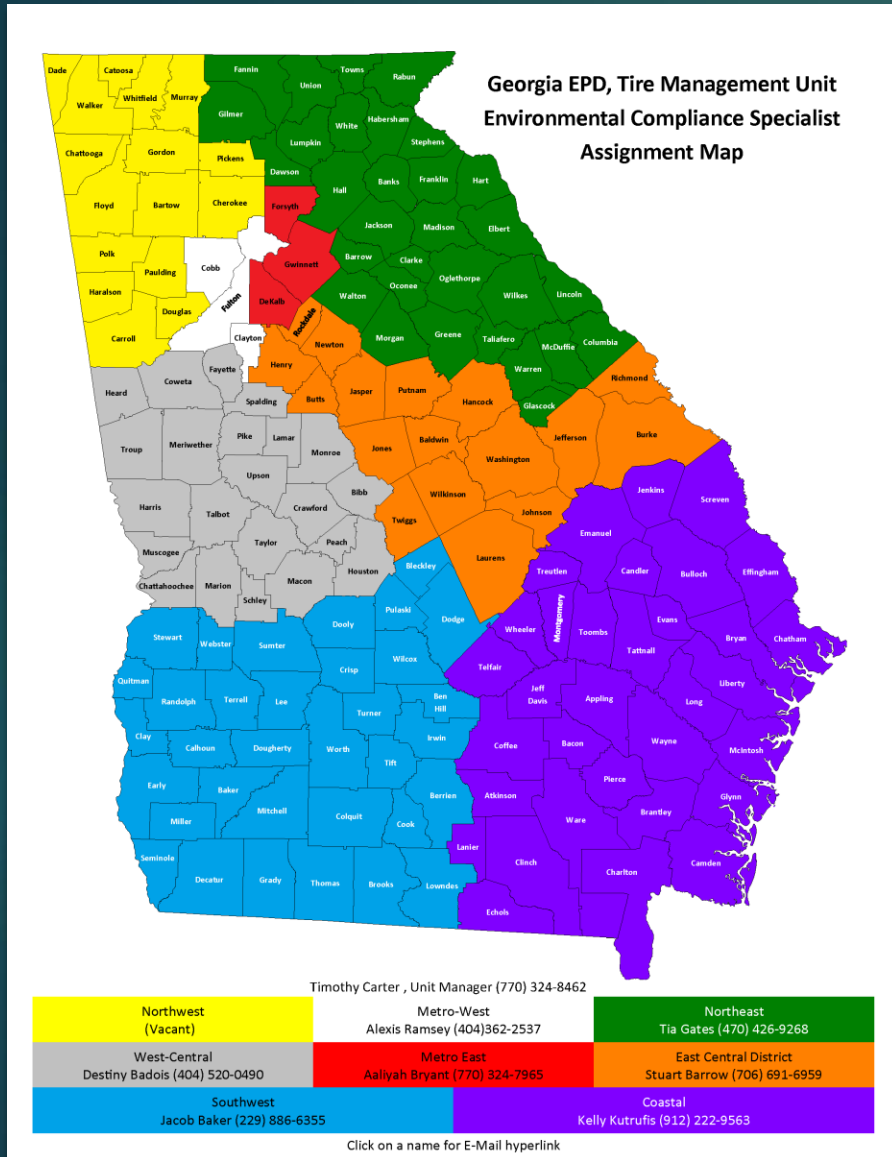
Tire Management Unit

- ❖ [Timothy Carter](#), Unit Manager
- ❖ 8 Environmental Compliance Specialists with designated inspection areas
- ❖ 1 Statewide Environmental Compliance Specialist assigned to Carriers/Sorters/Elevated Tire Dump Violations
- ❖ 1 Statewide Licensing Technician

[Tire Management Unit](#)

Phone: (404) 362-2537

Email: epd.tire@dnr.ga.gov





Tire Management Unit

Registrations

- Scrap Tire Generators
- New & Used Tire Retailers
- Tire Distributors (Tire Management Fee)

Permits

- Tire Carriers
- Tire Sorters

Complaints

- Tire dumping inspections
- Regulated operations

Agricultural Waiver Evaluations

Tire Management Unit by the Numbers

5763

**Scrap Tire
Generators**

791

**Used Tire
Dealers**

170

**Tire
Distributors**

218

**Tire
Carriers**

61

**Scrap Tire
Sorters**

14

**Tire Piles
Abated
Via Enforcement
6,733 PTEs**

Georgia Solid Waste Trust Fund

REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
Georgia Department of Natural Resources



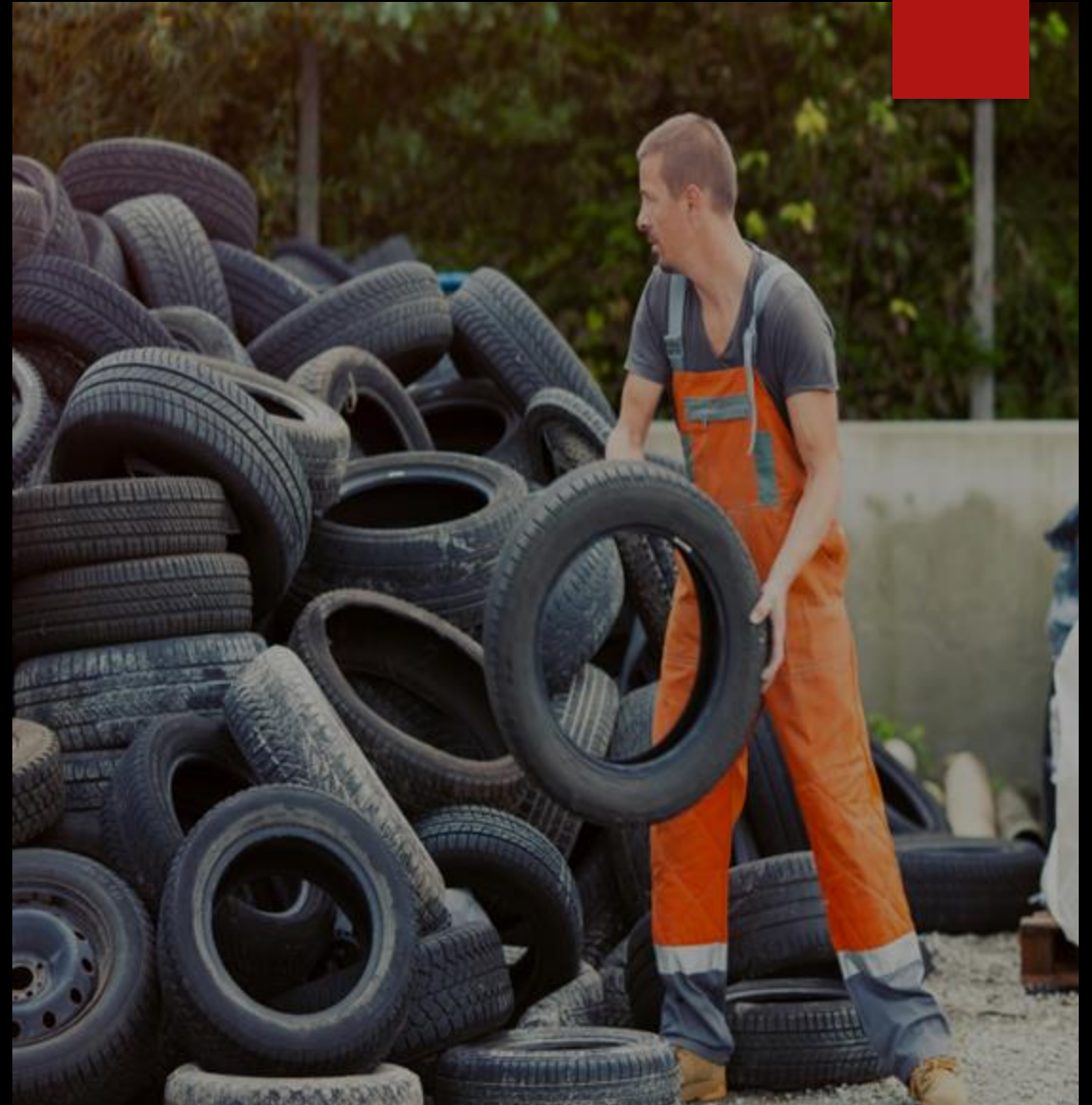
Recovered Materials Unit

- Manages permitting and regulatory compliance for Scrap Tire Processors
- Facilitates procurement of contractors for state-led tire abatement contracts
- Administers the SWTF Grant Program
 - Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR) Program
 - Tire Products Grant
 - Recycling and Waste Diversion (RWD) Grant

Recovered Materials Unit

- ❖ 1 Unit Manager
- ❖ 1 Inspector statewide designated to scrap tire processors and state-led abatement contracts
- ❖ 1 Permitting engineer who reviews scrap tire processor applications and design and operational plans
- ❖ 3 Env. Specialists designated to each SWTF grant track

[SWTF Grant Program](#) Email: swtf.grant@dnr.ga.gov



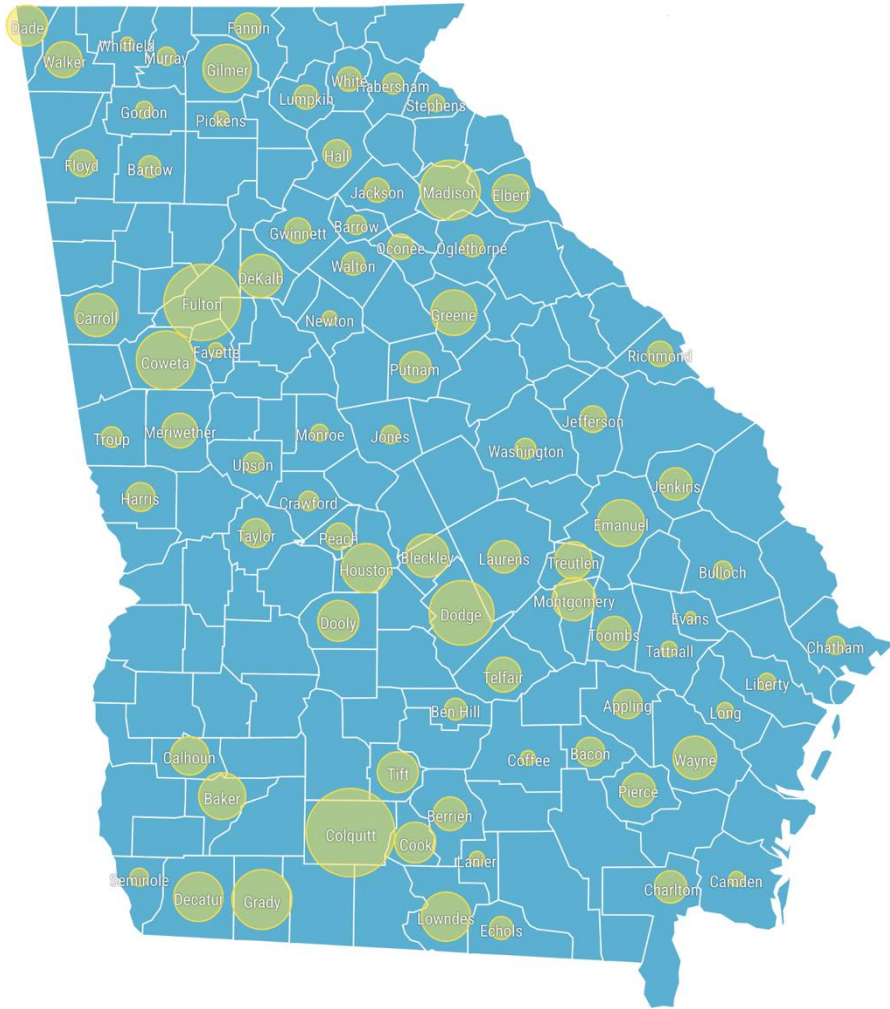
Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR) GRANT

- ❖ The [STAR Grant](#) reimburses eligible applicants for removing, transporting, and processing scrap tires from:
 - ❖ Right-of-way cleanups
 - ❖ Scrap tire collection (amnesty) events
 - ❖ Local government-led scrap tire abatement (tire dump) projects
- ❖ Reimbursement is limited to \$75,000 per applicant per state fiscal year
- ❖ \$4 per PTE processing cap



Email: epd.star@dnr.ga.gov

Local Government STAR Grant Reimbursements Per County



Since the start of the program, over 1.4 million passenger tire equivalents (PTEs) have been removed and recycled statewide.

Local governments have been reimbursed over \$3.9 million to cover the costs of removing, transporting, and processing the tires.

In FY24, 241,000 PTEs were removed by 44 local governments, totaling \$862,000

State-led Tire Abatements

Unresolved or emergency response sites referred to the RMU from TMU

Sites determined to be an environmental emergency, where the property owner is found to be a victim of a crime, or is financially unable to fund removal and recycling of scrap tires

Referred sites are compiled, verified by RMU Inspector, then posted to EPD Procurement Registry for bidding

Once abatements are completed, sites are inspected, then contractor is paid, and the contract is closed out



In FY 2024 5,956 PTEs were removed from 5 different abatement sites in Fulton, Meriwether, Richmond, Franklin, and Columbia Counties. Above is the site from Meriwether County.

Recovered Materials Unit by the Numbers



In-state
Scrap Tire
Processors



Out-of-state
Scrap Tire
Processors



Current State
Abatement
Contract
12,000 PTE



Sites Abated in
FY24
18,000 PTE

SOLID WASTE TRUST FUND

- ▶ The Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) was established in 1990 as part of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act (the Act)
- ▶ In 1992, an amendment to the Act established a primary source of funding from a \$1.00 fee on new replacement tires sold in Georgia
- ▶ Historically, the legislature appropriated the SWTF dollars to EPD in the annual budget
- ▶ Recent amendments to the Act dedicated all state trust fund fees



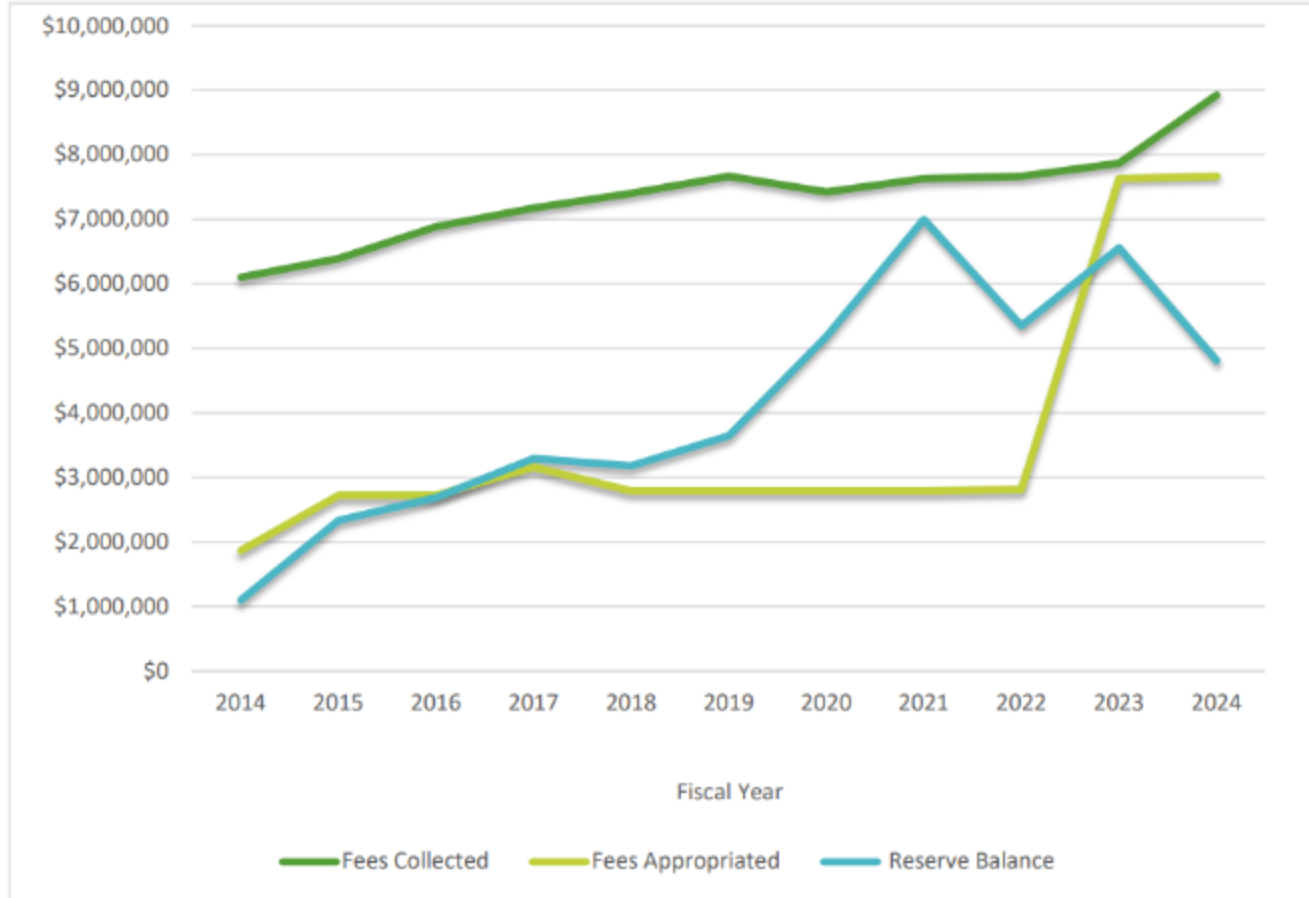
Georgia's Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF)

- ▶ **Funded by the Tire Management Fee**
- ▶ **Supports statewide recycling and waste diversion initiatives**
- ▶ **Facilitates the abatement and recycling of scrap tires**
- ▶ **Ensures the safe management of abandoned landfills**
- ▶ **Funds EPD program operations**

FEE COLLECTION & ADMINISTRATION

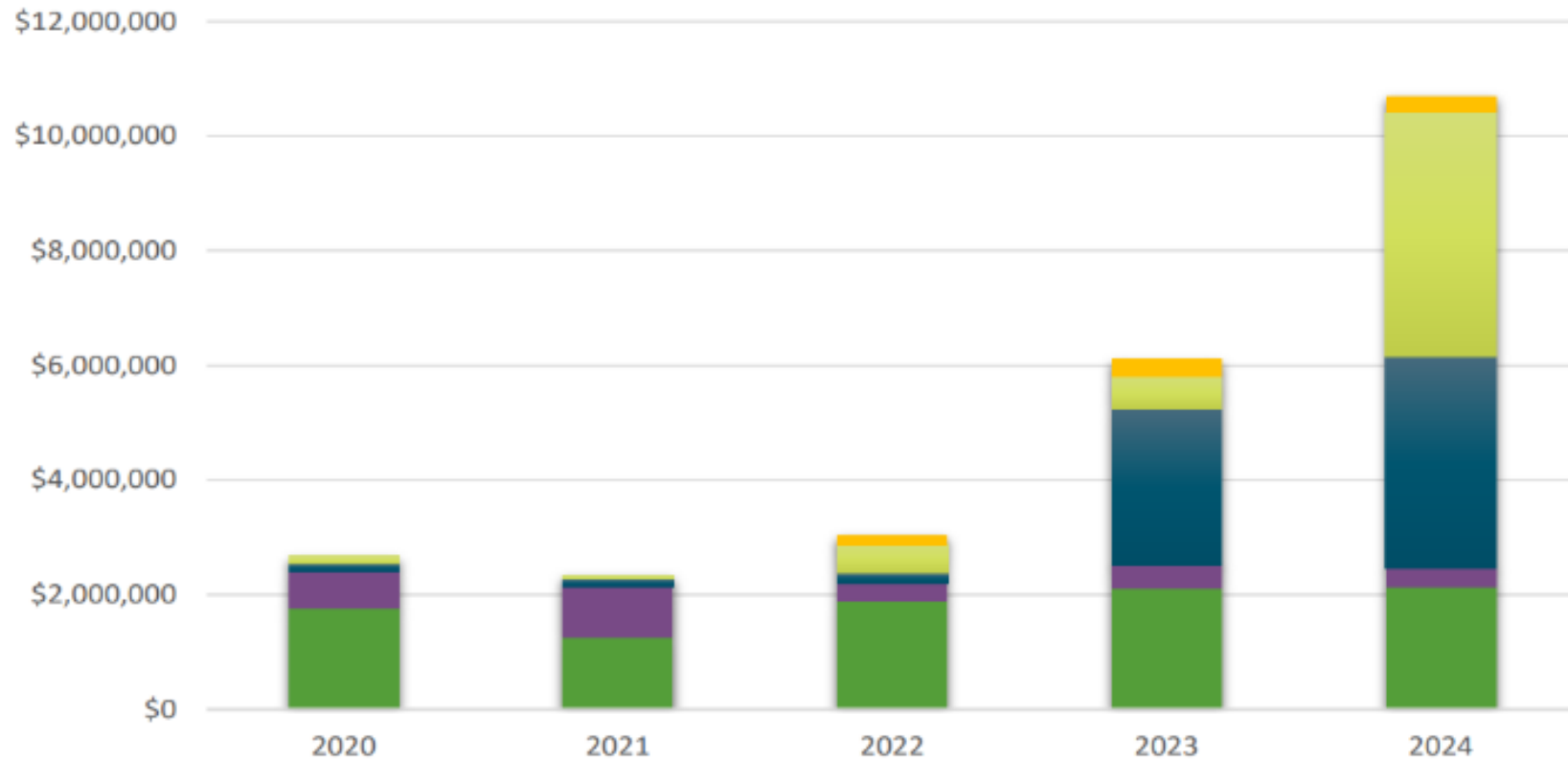
- July 1, 2022, saw the dedication of all trust fund fees
- July 2022 saw an increase in funding and the creation of the RMA Program and SWTF Grant Program's Recycling & Waste Diversion Grant
- July 1, 2023, saw the Tire Management Fee collection shift from tire retailers to tire distributors
- July 2023 saw the launch of the Tire Grant

Fees Collected on New Tires Sold and Amount Appropriated to SWTF FY 2014 to FY 2024



SWTF Fee
Collections,
Appropriations, &
Reserve Balance
FY2014 – FY2024

Expenses by Authorized Use



- Waste Reduction and Litter Education
- Abandoned Landfills
- Recycling and Waste Diversion Activities, and Grant Administration
- Operations and Fund Administration
- Scrap Tire Management and Abatement



Saving the world, one scrap tire at a time!



Questions?