

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board CENTRAL MASS. MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT 111 Otis Street Northborough, MA 01532 www.cmmcp.org

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Central Mass. Mosquito Control Awarded Environmental Merit Award for 2014 from the EPA

On Earth Day 2014 (April 22) CMMCP was given an "Environmental Merit" award from the New England Region 1 division of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), recognizing our efforts in our tire recycling program. On the EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/region1/ra/ema/2014recipients.html#Governmental they note:

Since the end of 2009, Tim Deschamps and Tim McGlinchy at the Mosquito Control Project have shown its 41 members communities the benefits of getting rid of old tires. Other communities statewide have taken note and begun their own programs. The control project picks up and delivers to recycling facilities used tires, which provide the ideal habitat for mosquito breeding. One tire can produce thousands of mosquitoes in a year. Removing tires eliminates the need for the Mosquito Control Project to inspect the tires or apply pesticides. The program involves cleaning the large waste tire dumping sites, removing tires from curbsides, removing waste tires left on the side of the road and coordinating with the community at events such as river cleanups and hazardous waste days. This program is a member of EPA's WasteWise Program. Through this project, the organization has recycled 11,500 tires, which saved 192 staff hours in monitoring larval habitats, and resulted in usage of 720 pounds less of pesticides.

"Our tire program has become very popular in many of our member communities" said CMMCP Executive Director Timothy Deschamps. "By bringing these tires to a recycling facility, we remove significant larval habitat from mosquito species that can transmit West Nile Virus. We also remove this blight from the environment. We are very honored and humbled to be recognized on a statewide and national basis for our efforts".

For more information on our tire program please check this link: <u>http://www.cmmcp.org/tires.htm</u>