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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**State Environment Department Awards \$400,000 to**

**Clean Up Tire Piles and Promote Tire Recycling**

(Santa Fe, NM) -- The New Mexico Environment Department awarded three trash management associations a total of \$400,000 in grant funds to develop tire recycling facilities and clean up scrap-tire dumps.

The Canadian River Association (CRA) received a \$200,000 grant to develop a regional tire recycling and abatement program in the Northeastern portion of the New Mexico. The CRA will purchase portable tire balers, provide operation and maintenance training, advertise the tire recycling program in the local news media and sponsor an annual Tire Amnesty Day. The CRA will provide the tire recycling services for Colfax, Curry, De Baca, Guadalupe, Harding, Quay, Roosevelt, San Miguel, and Union County.

The Grant County Solid Waste Authority (GCSWA) was awarded \$70,000 to expand its current tire recycling and abatement program to all areas within Grant and Hidalgo counties. The grant award will fund the completion of a tire wall and entrance at the Southwest Regional Landfill, the clean up of existing tire piles, and refurbish tire recycling equipment already owned by the GCSWA.

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The Torrance County Solid Waste Authority (TCSWA) received \$130,000 to purchase a portable tire baler, a one-ton truck, backhoe equipment, provide operation and maintenance training, advertise the tire program in the local news media, and establish a Tire Amnesty Day. The TCSWA will provide the equipment and services to: Torrance and Bernalillo County, the City of Moriarty, the towns of Mountainair and Estancia, and the villages of Willard and Encino.

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