

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**



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Environment Committee  
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Town of Mansfield  
Testimony In Support of  
Raised Bill 869

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TIRE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 869. Bill 869 offers a shared responsibility approach to the end of life management of tires, similar to the State's mattress, paint and electronics stewardship laws. The Connecticut Product Stewardship Council, along with the Product Stewardship Institute and Connecticut DEEP should be applauded for their work in consensus-building that has resulted in making Connecticut a leader in product stewardship legislation. Tires are good candidates for product stewardship since they pose their own set of problems. When landfilled, they tend to "float" to the surface. If stored outside, they become a prime breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes and rodents. Tire stockpiles have been known to retain enough heat that they spontaneously combust. It is estimated that Connecticut generates 3.41 million waste tires per year. In Mansfield the transfer station operators handle around 300 tires per year costing the Town about \$1 per passenger tire and more for larger tires. As a municipal solid waste coordinator, SB 869 is viewed positively since it relieves municipalities of the cost to handle and store discarded tires. This bill should reduce the number of illegally dumped tires and ease the cost of tire clean-ups. The bill places emphasis on recycling as the preferred end-of-life management, and it is hoped that the State will take the lead in supporting innovative reuse of crumb rubber for companies located within the State.

You are commended for the language of SB 869 and I hope you will support its passage into law.

Virginia Walton  
Mansfield Recycling Coordinator