

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 30, 2017

Contact: Kara Titus  
(785) 291-3684  
Kara.Titus@ks.gov

**KDHE collects 394.36 tons of waste tires for recycling**  
***Results of tire amnesty events held across state collect***

**TOPEKA, Kan.** – The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Waste Management partnered with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in an effort to combat mosquito population this summer by providing grants to counties to hold waste tire amnesty events. Eight counties participated in holding tire amnesty events starting in January ending in April. Tires can be breeding grounds for mosquitos as they tend to get forgotten after rain fills them with water. Mosquitos can lay eggs in just a tablespoon of sitting water. Mosquitos can carry diseases such as the West Nile Virus and Zika which can be harmful to the immune compromised and pregnant women.

Counties that are known to have the Zika-carrying species *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito present were targeted for the program. The events were a success collected an estimated 47,677 waste tires.

###

*KDHE's mission is to protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans.*