



Art Center Gets Help With Tire Problem

May 17, 2011

By Lesley Tanner, [CBS](#) Atlanta Reporter
ATLANTA

The Arts Exchange, a non-profit art center in Atlanta, has been the target of illegally dumped tires for more than six months.

Last October, hundreds of tires showed up on the property over just a few days. Board members spent months trying to figure out how to get rid of them without spending up to \$3,000 to recycle them.

"We called the federal EPA, we called the state and then we found out that basically tires are not recycled for free," said board member Lisa Tuttle.

Tuttle said getting rid of the tires before the summer became a top priority.

"These will gather water, they'll be a breeding ground for mosquitoes and when we have kids around, they're just sort of a magnet," said Tuttle.

But Tuttle said they still weren't sure how they would afford it until Liberty Tire Recycling offered to help. Regional Sales Manager Dewey Grantham Jr. said they couldn't let the summer youth programs start with the danger around.

"There's a school involved. There could be children," said Grantham. "We want to avoid something like this giving tire recyclers a bad name."

And though the tires are gone for now, Tuttle said their out of the way location makes them an easy target.

"We've got better signs posted saying this is private property, which we didn't have before," said Tuttle. "We've got plans to put up better fencing and better lighting."

Small changes Grantham said can make a big difference.

"You can't keep everyone out, but in most cases a fence or a gate will at least keep these guys out long enough so they can't get in and dump these tires," said Grantham.