

**LIBERTY UTILITIES – EMPIRE DISTRICT ANNOUNCES  
USED TIRE COLLECTION IN JOPLIN**

JOPLIN, MO – May 01, 2018 – Liberty Utilities – Empire District announced today that customers may turn in their used tires on Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5, at the Joplin Recycling Center, 1310 West “A” Street from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free event is being held in partnership with the City of Joplin.

The tires are processed to become tire-derived fuel (TDF) which can be used by coal fueled power plants. The use of TDF reduces the environmental hazards associated with improper disposal of used tires. The benefits of TDF, as described by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, include:

- Saves landfill space.
- Removes tires from the environment and alleviates the need for tire landfills.
- Reduces the amount of illegal tire dumping.
- Reduces mosquito-breeding habitat, the mosquito population, and the spread of West Nile Virus.
- Preserves our natural resources by replacing coal, natural gas, and other fossil fuels.
- Reduces the amount of coal that must be mined to keep up with electricity demands.

Residential customers of Liberty - Empire may bring up to ten automotive tires per household to the free collection. Collection officials do ask that the tires be free of excess mud and debris. No commercial tires will be accepted.

This is a special event for residential customers with automotive tires needing disposal. Commercial businesses who need help contracting with a tire disposal company may contact the Joplin Recycling Center at 624-0820, Ext. 501, for assistance in locating a firm.

Liberty Utilities – Empire District, Joplin, Missouri, is a subsidiary of U.S. based Liberty Utilities Co., and headquarters for the Company’s Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 320,000 customers across six states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding services in the Empire area, visit [www.empiredistrict.com](http://www.empiredistrict.com). For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit [www.libertyutilities.com](http://www.libertyutilities.com).

###

**Contact:**  
Denise Overstreet  
Communications Specialist  
417-625-5114  
[Denise.Overstreet@LibertyUtilities.com](mailto:Denise.Overstreet@LibertyUtilities.com)