

KELOWNA

Worn tires retired responsibly

By Okanagan Sunday Staff

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People have dropped off more than 1,000 old tires in Kelowna to clean up their yards and fight the mosquito onslaught.

The Regional District of Central Okanagan is sponsoring four drop-off locations this weekend to remove mosquito habitat. Even a small pool of water inside a tire can foster hundreds of skeeters, which may spread West Nile virus.

Ted Louden delivered four all-season tires to Okanagan College's KLO campus Saturday.

"They were sitting outside and we have no place to put them. And here we are — we found a place," he said.

Seven hundred tires were dropped off at the site and another 300 at North Glenmore Elementary School. The program continues from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today at Swalwell Park on Bottom Wood Lake Road in Lake Country and at Casorso Elementary in Kelowna.

Trucks will transport the tires to the Glenmore Landfill. From there, a company will ship them to the Coast, where they'll be shredded for recycling, said Ron Lampreau of BWP



DON PLANT/*The Okanagan Sunday*

Ted Louden hands over one of four old tires to Ron Lampreau at Okanagan College's KLO campus in Kelowna on Saturday.

Consulting, the firm contracted to control area mosquitoes. "They get turned into blasting mats . . . door mats, full-rubber tires with no air and rubber fitness weights," he said.