CFM Supports the Extension of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ 50-Cent Scrap Tire Fee

WHEREAS, six million scrap tires are generated each year in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, these scrap tires have negative impacts on human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, scrap tires house disease carrying pests such as mosquitoes; and

WHEREAS, scrap tire fires often become major hazardous incidents affecting entire communities, frequently requiring neighborhood evacuations and long drawn out fire extinguishing operations; and

WHEREAS, in tire fires, tires break down into hazardous compounds including gases, heavy metals, and oil; and

WHEREAS, over 17 million tires have been removed from over 1,200 dumps in the state of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, at least 180 dumps with over 230,000 tires remain in the state of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, scrap tires are unsightly; and

WHEREAS, used tires are difficult to dispose of, take up a lot of space in landfills, and can be recycled to higher uses; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources utilizes the 50-cent Scrap Tire Fee to clean up and prevent such sites; and

WHEREAS, this fee provides funding to local groups such as Stream Teams and River Relief to remove such tires so they can be properly managed or recycled into useful products; and

WHEREAS, the fee was not reauthorized in 2004 for a period of 18 months during which approximately 500,000 tires were illegally dumped; and

WHEREAS, this statutory fee sunsets on January first, 2015: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 23rd day of March 2014, supports the extension of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ 50-cent Scrap Tire Fee.