

Important Notice

California Bans Lead Wheel Weights

Ban is Effective January 1, 2010

Are you using lead wheel weights when you balance a tire?

If so, you need to read this. The Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 757 that prohibits the use of lead wheel weights in California. On January 1, 2010, it is against the law to manufacture, sell, or install any wheel weight containing more than 0.1 percent lead on any tire, new or old.

Why is California banning lead wheel weights?

Lead is toxic and dangerous to our health. During the course of regular use, lead wheel weights can dislodge and wash into storm drains or disintegrate into lead dust. Either outcome pollutes our water and air. Under the new law, wheel weights made of alternative materials (zinc and steel, for example) must be used.

Are there penalties if you use lead wheel weights after January 1, 2010?

Manufacturers, retailers and installers who do not follow the law could face penalties of up to \$2,500 a day for each violation. Used and unused lead wheel weights should be regarded as scrap metal and either recycled, or managed as hazardous waste.

Where can you find more information about this law?

To learn more about SB 757, contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control at 800-728-6942.

State Board of Equalization
Environmental Fees Division