



# BMPs

## Best Management Practices for Motor Vehicle Recyclers

### Used Oil & Used Oil Filters

Used oil is classified as a hazardous waste in New Hampshire. However, you can avoid many of the Hazardous Waste Rule requirements if you completely drain used oil from the vehicles you recycle and either use it to heat your motor vehicle recycling facility or send it to an approved used oil marketer or recycler.

It is important to manage used oil from end-of-life vehicles in a way that protects the environment. Your decision on how to manage your used oil may be based on the quantity of used oil generated at your facility and what makes economic sense for your business. Your options include burning the used oil in a used oil space heater,

taking it to an authorized marketer/recycler, or hiring a registered hazardous waste transporter to recycle it or dispose of it as a hazardous waste.

#### **REMEMBER...**

- Used oil mixed with gasoline, gas additives, degreasers, antifreeze, or solvents **cannot** be legally burned and **must** be managed as a hazardous waste.
- **Never** put used oil in a rusty, unlabeled, dented or leaking drum or tank.
- **Never** put used oil in the trash or pour it on the ground or down drains. Immediately clean up spills.

#### **Best Management Practices for Used Oil**

- Remove used oil from end-of-life vehicles soon after they arrive at the facility. Do this over an impervious surface (for example, concrete) and use a drip pan.
- Store used oil in a tank or container that is in good condition and label it: "Used Oil for Recycling." (*If you are not recycling the used oil, label the container according to hazardous waste requirements.*)
- To prevent spills, use a funnel when transferring used oil to the storage container. If spills cannot be avoided, place the container on a drip pan or similar device to collect the oil.
- **Never** mix used oil with gasoline, antifreeze, solvents, or other such fluids. (*These mixtures cannot be legally burned in used oil furnaces and must be managed as a hazardous waste.*)
- Used engine oil **may** be mixed with other types of uncontaminated oil and lubricants, including transmission fluid, differential oil, brake fluid, power-steering fluid and transaxle fluid.
- Keep all used oil containers and tanks tightly sealed when not in use.
- You must be a "Used Oil Marketer" to accept used oil from outside sources. For information on becoming a "Used Oil Marketer," call NHDES at (603) 271-6424 or 1-888-TAKEOIL.

- If you give your used oil to someone else, they must be a “Used Oil Marketer” or “Registered Hazardous Waste Transporter.”
- You are allowed to transport up to 110 gallons of your own used oil at a time to an approved recycling facility or “Used Oil Marketer.” If you do this, keep a bill of lading at least three years to show proof of shipment.

#### Best Management Practices for Used Oil Filters

- **Fully drained** used oil filters are not a hazardous waste and can be sent to a scrap metal recycler with other scrap metal from your facility.
- Puncture and drain oil filters over a drip rack or drain table, at room temperature (60° F) or warmer for at least 12 hours, or use a filter crusher.
- The best way to fully drain a filter is to use a filter crusher.



Drain table, with grate on top & spigot on bottom

#### Best Management Practices for Used Oil Furnaces

- Operating a used oil furnace requires you to notify NHDES by calling (603) 271-2921 and filling out a notification form.
- Find out whether you need a permit to operate your used oil furnace. *(Most used oil furnaces smaller than 500,000 BTUs do **not** require this permit, if they are properly constructed and operated).* For more information, contact the NHDES Air Resources Division at (603) 271-1370 and your local fire department.
- If you operate a used oil furnace, you must keep records describing the volume of fuel burned, days in use, and maintenance. Burn only the oil you generate on site, unless you are a “Used Oil Marketer.”
- For more information about used oil furnaces and used oil management, call the NHDES Used Oil Program at (603) 271-6424 or 1-888-TAKEOIL.

***This guide sheet provides general guidance only.***

#### For additional information, contact:

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
 Waste Management Division, N.H. Green Yards Program  
 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
 (603) 271-2925 Fax: (603) 271-2456  
[nhgreenyards@des.nh.gov](mailto:nhgreenyards@des.nh.gov)



Funding for this guide sheet was provided in part by a grant from the N.H. Department of Environmental Services with funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.