

THE CITY OF Edinburg

Good Housekeeping Practices if your site has Used Oil or Antifreeze-Fact Sheet

Protect the Laguna Madre and the Arroyo Colorado

Be THE difference in Edinburg by preventing stormwater runoff pollution from your Tire or Auto Repair Shop that has used oil and antifreeze. Used oil does not break down easily in the environment and can contain toxic chemicals and heavy metals. If spilled on the ground, poured down storm drains or disposed with trash, it can pollute surface water or groundwater. Did you know that one cup of oil can spread a very thin sheen over more than an acre of surface water? An oil sheen can block sunlight, impair photosynthesis and prevent the replenishment of dissolved oxygen which leads to the death of fish and harms other animals who live in that water body.



Used oil and used oil filters are produced in a wide variety of locations, independent garages, air conditioning repair facilities, metal-working shops, fleet garages, auto stores, industrial facilities, homes, etc.

Good Housekeeping Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Tire & Auto Repair Shops which handle Used Oil and Antifreeze during a normal working day.

Utilize these Good Housekeeping BMP's to help prevent stormwater runoff pollution in local and in the Laguna Madre .

- ✓ **USED OIL.** Includes auto crankcase (engine) oil, brake fluid, automatic transmission fluid, power steering fluid, liquid and semi-solid gear, chain and ball bearing lubricants, and hydraulic fluid. Used oil can be mixed and managed together in container(s).
- ✓ **USED OIL.** Includes diesel engine crankcase oil, including car, truck, bus, marine heavy equipment, and railroad engine oils not used for fuel.
- ✓ **CONTROL USED OIL AND ANTIFREEZE CONTAINERS.** Storage containers should be not leaking or rusting and clearly labeled with the words “**USED OIL**”. Antifreeze container(s) marked: “**Used Antifreeze**”. There is a difference between used oil and antifreeze. Do not mix together.
- ✓ **TRASH HANDLING.** Non-hazardous and non-liquid solid wastes should be disposed in trash cans or dumpsters with lids that should fit securely to prevent dispersal of trash by humans or wind.
- ✓ **CONTROL STORAGE.** Locate any outdoor used oil storage tanks or containers in a fenced area, which will help prevent unauthorized access or vandalism, minimize possibility of fire or explosion and accidental release of oil to the environment.
- ✓ **KEEP IT CLEAN.** Sweep site parking lot, outside your front and back doors to control litter and debris. Use oil absorbent materials to clean up small drips and spills.
- ✓ **INSPECTION.** Visually inspect used oil tank or container(s) on a weekly basis for leaks or spills.
- ✓ **OIL TRANSPORTER.** Contact a permitted waste oil transporter to haul used oil to a permitted recycling facility. Or take your used oil to a oil collection center. And a fee maybe charged for used oil filters. Some auto service centers will accept used antifreeze for recycling.
- ✓ **REGULATED WASTE.** Used oil and antifreeze are not considered hazardous waste unless it mixed with a hazardous waste such as a chlorinated solvent.
- ✓ **PURCHASE EQUIPMENT.** Purchase a non-spill vacuum-type system for spill-proof oil changes.
- ✓ **NOT ALLOWED.** Texas has banned the disposal of used oil and used oil filters from landfill.
- ✓ **DO NOT.** Do not mix petroleum spirits, mineral spirits, petroleum ether, acetone, fuel additives, alcohols, paint thinners, brush cleaners and other cleaner with used oil.