

(Revised 12/08)

## USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTER MANAGEMENT & DISPOSAL

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(For assistance, please contact EHS at (402) 472-4925, or visit our web site at <http://ehs.unl.edu/>)

Used motor oil and filters are subject to certain regulatory requirements. This SOP describes management practices to ensure compliance. This SOP does not address oils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

### Used Oils

- Label all used oil collection containers, tanks, and drums with the words "Used Oil ." As a good management practice, keep the container securely closed.
- Use a container with a maximum capacity of less than 55-gallons. If using a larger container or tank, consult with EHS regarding applicability of other regulatory requirements (e.g., State Fire Marshal and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures).
- Oil is a dangerous pollutant in lakes and streams, and when spilled on the ground. Therefore, it is important to take measures to prevent potential releases. Use a secondary containment device. For indoor storage areas, keep the container away from floor drains. Avoid outdoor storage. Indoor storage or areas protected from the weather are strongly recommended. If a container must be stored outside, place the container away from storm sewers, street gutters, waterways, etc. Immediately notify EHS of releases; certain mitigating actions and reporting requirements to regulatory authorities may apply.
- Do not co-mingle used oil with other solvents or fluids. Doing so may subject the used oil to stringent hazardous waste regulations. As a good management practice, limit access so that the integrity of the used oil can be verified before it is added to the collection container.
- Do not burn used oil on-site or give to others who will directly burn the oil. Either dispose of the used oil via Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) or a legitimate used oil marketer.

### Used Oil Filters

- Used oil filters, when removed from equipment, can contain as much as 12 to 16 ounces of oil; therefore, all oil filters must be punctured on the dome end and hot-

*(Created 6/03)*

drained for 24 hours, or crushed and dismantled. "Hot-drained" means that the filters are drained immediately after being taken off a hot engine.

- Metal parts from filters that are drained and/or crushed can be recycled as scrap metal.
- Place punctured or crushed filters in a collection container labeled as "Used Oil Filters." Store the container in an area that is protected from the weather.

### **Used Fuel Filters**

- Used gasoline fuel filters may be regulated as hazardous waste. Collect them in a labeled container equipped with a tight-fitting lid (e.g., 5-gallon bucket labeled as "Used Fuel Filters"). Tag the container for collection by EHS when it is full. Used diesel fuel filters may be managed as scrap metal.