



Tempe Environmental Bulletin

November, 2012

Volume 8, Issue 4

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Used Oil

Used oil is a product of many service and industrial activities such as auto repair, metal working, machine lubrication, refrigeration, and hydraulic equipment repair. The following BMPs are recommendations for waste oil storage areas and management procedures.

- Train employees on the proper methods for handling waste oil.
- Use labels and signs to segregate used oil from other wastes and train employees of the importance of keeping wastes separate.
- Do not contaminate waste oil with even small amounts of gasoline, brake cleaner, carburetor cleaner, or other solvents.
- Keep storage containers closed when not actively adding or removing material.
- When storing drums keep an aisle space between drums to allow for inspection for leaks and/or damage.
- Install secondary containment to prevent the release of waste oil to the environment.
- Inspect containers and secondary containment structures on a weekly basis to be certain that they are in good condition. Keep written records of these inspections.
- Try to prevent spills when dismantling vehicles.
- Take steps to prevent leaks and spills. Keep machinery, equipment and tanks in good working condition being especially careful when transferring used oil.
- Avoid using absorbents for oil spills unless there is a threat of the spill spreading to soil or water. Oily absorbents must be evaluated prior to disposal to determine whether they are hazardous or nonhazardous.
- Before contracting a transporter for your waste oil, make sure to check for the transporter's state certification. Know how your used oil will be recycled before it leaves your site.
- Get receipts for waste oil shipments and maintain records.
- If possible, keep containers of used oil stored inside or under cover.

Please Use Listed BMPs to Prevent This



City of Tempe Stormwater Program Reminder:

“Be Stormwater Smart” and visit our website for Best Management Practices you can use to help reduce the risk of adding pollutants to stormwater. <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater>

You can also use this website to learn more about Tempe’s Stormwater management Program, to report illicit discharges to storm drains, or to file a stormwater related complaint.

Remember it is a violation of the City of Tempe Code to cause or allow a non-stormwater discharge to a stormwater drain!

As required by Tempe’s stormwater permit, Environmental Compliance Inspectors have significantly increased commercial and industrial stormwater inspections. If you would like to schedule an inspection at your facility, please call (480) 350-2678.

