

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



You dump it,  
you drink it.

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**Recycle Used Motor Oil**





## Recycling your oil helps the environment, saves energy and protects our drinking water.

**USED MOTOR OIL FROM A SINGLE OIL CHANGE CAN RUIN A MILLION GALLONS OF FRESH WATER — A YEAR'S SUPPLY FOR 50 PEOPLE.**

Used motor oil is insoluble, persistent and can contain toxic chemicals and heavy metals. It's slow to degrade. It sticks to everything from beach sand to bird feathers. Used motor oil is a major source of oil contamination of waterways and can result in pollution of drinking water sources.

**ON AVERAGE, ABOUT FOUR MILLION PEOPLE REUSE MOTOR OIL AS A LUBRICANT FOR OTHER EQUIPMENT OR TAKE IT TO A RECYCLING FACILITY.**

Recycled used motor oil can be re-refined into new oil, processed into fuel oils and used as raw materials for the petroleum industry. One gallon of used motor oil provides the same 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil as 42 gallons of crude oil.

**BECOME USED MOTOR OIL RECYCLER NUMBER FOUR MILLION AND ONE.**

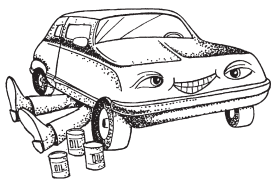
Begin recycling your used motor oil today. If all the oil from American do-it-yourself oil changers were recycled, it would be enough motor oil for more than 50 million cars a year. Imagine how much foreign oil that would eliminate.

**Used motor oil from cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, farm equipment and lawnmowers can be recycled and re-refined.**

# Recycling your used motor oil is easy.

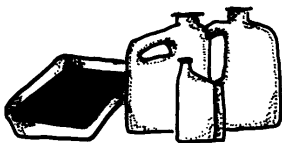
# 1

**REMOVE.** Do not spill any oil on the ground.



# 2

**CONTAIN.** Put your used motor oil in a clean plastic container with a tight lid. Never store used oil in a container that once held chemicals, food or beverages.



# 3

**DO NOT MIX.**



# 4

**RECYCLE.** Take used motor oil to a service station or other location that collects used motor oil for recycling.





## Be part of the solution:

Recycling makes more sense today than ever. Recycling saves money and protects the environment. Improper waste management costs money — your money. You pay in higher consumer prices, taxes for environmental cleanups and increased health care costs.

## Here's what you can do:

- Protect our environment and conserve our resources by taking your used motor oil to the nearest used oil collection center, such as a service station, lube center or automotive store.
- Look for the oil drop. It is an industry symbol signifying used oil is collected for recycling and reuse.



To find used oil collection centers in your area, call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.cleanup.org](http://www.cleanup.org).

For more information on managing used motor oil, visit EPA on the Web:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/usedoil/index.htm>



Solid Waste and  
Emergency Response  
EPA530-F-02-027  
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[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)