

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Managing Oil Spills

You dump it, you drink it.

How to manage oil spills:

- 1 Take steps to prevent spills.** Keep machinery, equipment, containers and tanks in good working condition and be careful when transferring used motor oil. Have clean-up materials, such as rags, booms or sand, readily available.
- 2 Stop the oil from flowing at the source.** If a leak from a container or tank cannot be stopped, put the oil in another holding container.
- 3 Contain spilled oil.** Spread sand or other clean-up materials over the oil and surrounding area.
- 4 Clean up and recycle used motor oil.** Remove the used oil from any clean-up materials, don't mix it with anything and send it to a re-refiner when possible.
- 5 Remove, repair or replace the defective tank or container immediately.**



Solid Waste and
Emergency Response
EPA530-H-02-001S
Winter 2003
www.epa.gov

