Environmental audit checklists are designed to assist businesses by providing a low cost way of reviewing compliance with Minnesota’s environmental laws and rules. Because the laws and rules are numerous and often complicated, this checklist cannot be a complete guide to your legal obligations. You may have obligations that are not covered on this checklist. If you have questions regarding the Environmental Audit Program or this checklist, please call the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) at 651-282-6143 or 800-657-3938.

Date of audit ____________________________
Company __________________________________
Completed by/Title __________________________

Environmental Audit Program Participation
A check mark in any of the boxes indicating that a requirement is not being met designates a violation of one or more regulations. To participate in the Environmental Audit Program, submit a report of your findings to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The Report Inventory form lists items that need to be included in the report and meets the audit report requirements. You do not need to submit a copy of this checklist.

Answer each question unless specifically directed otherwise.

Used oil includes:

- Engine oil
- Transmission fluid
- Lubricating oil
- Grease
- Brake fluid

Antifreeze, fuels and solvents are not used oil.

1. Does your business accept or generate any used oil or related wastes?
   - Yes  You need to complete this checklist. Call SBEAP for Hazardous Waste Fact Sheet #4.30, Managing Used Oil and Related Wastes, or find it at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf.
   - No  You do not need to complete this checklist.

Used Oil Management

Storage

2. Do you store used oil in containers? (Container means any portable device in which a material is stored, transported, treated, disposed of, or otherwise handled.)
   - Yes  The containers must be leak proof, closed, and labeled with the words “Used Oil.” They must also be sitting on a surface that is reasonably impervious to used oil. (Recommended: asphalt or coated concrete.)
   - No  Storing in tanks and burning for heat are also discussed in this checklist.

3. Do you store used oil in tanks? (Tank means a stationary device designed to contain an accumulation of hazardous waste. It is constructed primarily of non-earthen materials, such as concrete, steel, and plastic, which provides structural support.)
   - Yes  If you store used oil in aboveground storage tanks, skip to question 5.
     If you store used oil in underground storage tanks, continue on to question 4.
   - No  If you do not store used oil in tanks or in containers, skip to question 12.
Underground tanks greater than 110 gallons

4. If you have an underground storage tank with a capacity of greater than 110 gallons, have you:
   - Registered the tank with the MPCA Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program?
   - Established an approved method of leak detection?
   - Notified the UST Program at least ten days in advance of installation or removal of this tank by a certified contractor?
   - Analyzed soil sample(s) after removing the tank?
   - Investigated any soil or water contamination?
   - Protected a steel tank from corrosion?
   - If you put more than 25 gallons of used oil into this tank at a time, have you upgraded the tank for spill containment and overfill prevention? (Recommended for facilities that accept used oil from the public.)
   - Properly closed the tank if it has been out of service for more than a year?
   - Kept the necessary records (leak detection, corrosion protection, repair, and closure)?

☐ Yes  You meet all of the above requirements.
☐ Not applicable. Your underground storage tank does not have a capacity of greater than 110 gallons.
☐ No  You are not meeting all of the above requirements. Begin these practices, unless you determine that you have some exemptions from these requirements:
   - Refer to fact sheets, #1.01, Do Underground Storage Tank Requirements Apply to Your Tank? and #1.09, Waste Oil Underground Storage Tank Requirements. Go to http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/t-u1-01.pdf and http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/t-u1-09.pdf, or call SBEAP to request these fact sheets.
   - If you have an unregistered tank, use the Notification/Change in Status for Underground Storage Tanks form. Go to http://www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/pubs/ust-notif.pdf or call SBEAP to request this form.
   - A UST checklist that details all UST requirements is available. If you store more than used oil in underground storage tanks, we recommend that you use the UST checklist. Go to http://www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/audit_p.html#ust or call SBEAP to request this checklist.

Aboveground tanks at least 500 gallons

5. Do you store your used oil in an aboveground storage tank (AST) that holds at least 500 gallons?
   - Yes  Each of these tanks must be registered with the MPCA AST Program using the Aboveground Storage Tank Notification Form. If your tank is not registered, you are not meeting this requirement. Call SBEAP to request the AST Notification Form or go to http://www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/ast.html#registration.
   - No  MPCA AST requirements do not apply to your tanks. Use the same safeguards as for containers.

Indoor aboveground storage tanks

6. Is your aboveground storage tank located inside a building or other type of enclosed structure, resting on or elevated above an impermeable floor surface from which a release would:
   - Be entirely contained within a secondary containment structure?
   - Not escape from the building through any doorways, floor drains, or other means?
   - Be directed by any drainage system of the building either to a permitted on-site, wastewater treatment facility or to a permitted, municipal wastewater treatment facility?
     - Yes  Your tank meets the definition of an indoor tank. Register your tank with the MPCA. Call SBEAP to register your tank. No further aboveground storage tank requirements apply.
     - No  Your tank does not meet the definition of an indoor tank. Continue with this self-evaluation checklist.

Aboveground storage tanks 500 gallons to 1100 gallons within 500 feet of surface water (lakes, rivers, streams)

7. Does your AST have a capacity from 500-1100 gallons, and is it located within 500 feet of surface water?
   - Yes  Continue on to question 8.
   - No  Skip to question 9.
8. Have the following conditions been met?
   - The tank is labeled with the substance stored and its capacity.
   - If there is more than one tank at a site, each tank has been labeled with a unique tank number.
   - Tank lines are labeled so that the person controlling the substance transfer can readily identify which line is connected to which tank.
   - A facility that does not have a person at the tank site 24 hours a day has a sign with the name, address, and telephone number of the facility owner, operator, or local emergency response unit. When this sign is required, it is posted in a conspicuous place and is legible from outside any secondary containment area.
   - A secondary containment area is provided that has a continuous dike surrounding the tank, which prevents releases from contaminating surface waters. Double walled tanks meet all secondary containment requirements.
   - The secondary containment area is able to contain at least 100 percent of the design capacity of the largest tank in the secondary containment area, plus displacement from all tanks within the containment area, with an additional 10 percent capacity if the secondary containment area is exposed to precipitation.
   - If tanks containing more than one type of substance are stored within one secondary containment area, the substances are compatible with each other.
   - Any secondary containment area constructed of synthetic or manufactured materials is installed and maintained according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.
   - A tank installed on or after November 2, 1998, has a secondary containment area that is constructed of a material that is impermeable to and compatible with the substance being stored and that will prevent a release to the environment, including compacted clay, synthetic membrane, concrete, steel, fiberglass, or another approved material.
   - The area of secondary containment, which is directly under any tank installed on or after November 2, 1998, is designed and constructed to provide for the detection of a release of a substance.
   - A tank installed prior to November 2, 1998, has a secondary containment area that is either constructed of a material that is impermeable to and compatible with the substance being stored, and that will prevent a release to the environment, including compacted clay, synthetic membrane, concrete, steel, fiberglass, or another approved material; or is constructed of soils that have been verified through permeability testing to meet the minimum soil permeability requirement for a Type B substance.
   
   □ Yes You meet all of the above requirements.
   □ No You are not meeting all of the above requirements.

Aboveground storage tanks larger than 1,100 gallons

9. Do you have an aboveground storage tank that is larger than 1,100 gallons?
   □ Yes You must meet the rule requirements as listed in Minn. R. ch. 7151. Please refer to the General Requirements for Aboveground Storage Tank fact sheet (including labeling, registration, secondary containment, corrosion protection, overfill protection, monitoring, inspections, etc.) for further clarification. Call SBEAP for copies or look up this rule and fact sheet on the MPCA Internet Web site at: http://www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/ast.html http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/t-a1-02.pdf
   □ No Continue on to the next question.

10. Do you have additional questions, or need more information, about aboveground storage tanks?
    □ Yes Look up fact sheets and the AST Rule, Minn. R. ch. 7151 at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/ast.html, or call SBEAP.
    □ No Continue with this self-evaluation checklist.

Heating

11. Do you heat your business with used oil?
    □ Yes You may be exempt from the tank storage rules. Aboveground and underground storage tanks of 1,100 gallons or less capacity used for storing heating oil for consumption on the premises where stored are exempt from the tank storage rules. To clarify any possible exemptions contact SBEAP.
    □ No You do not have any exemptions from the tank storage rules.
12. If you burn used oil to heat your building, do you ensure that the used oil is from one or more of the following?:
   - Your site?
   - The general public?
   - Farms that generate less than 25 gallons per month on average?
   - Another location owned or operated by you?
   - Yes  You meet the above requirements.
   - No  You may not accept used oil from other businesses, unless it is has been tested at least one time per source and shown to be on-specification. Table 3 on page 10 describes what makes used oil on-specification.
   - Not applicable. You do not burn used oil to heat your building.

13. If you burn used oil, is your space heater:
   - Rated at not more than 500,000 British thermal units (Btu) per hour?
   - Vented to the outdoors?
   - Yes  You meet all of the above requirements.
   - No  You are not meeting these requirements.
   - Not applicable. You do not burn used oil.

14. If you burn used oil to heat your building, have you contacted both places listed below?:
   - State building code personnel to ensure that building codes for installation and use of the burner are met (for example, having an Underwriter Laboratory listed burning device or its equivalent).
   - State fire marshal’s office to see if there are additional requirements.
   - Yes  Meet any additional building code or fire requirements.
   - No  Make these contacts. See Table 2.
   - Not applicable. You do not burn used oil to heat your building.

Selling

15. Do you sell motor oil or motor oil filters?
   - Yes
   - You must post a notice adjacent to the motor oil and motor filter displays which:
     - Is 8 ½ by 11 inches in size
     - Contains the universal recycling symbol with the following language:
       - “It is illegal to put used oil and used motor oil filters in the garbage.”
       - “Recycle your used oil and used motor oil filters.”
     - You will also need to include one of the following sentences:
       - “There is a free collection site here for your used oil and used motor oil filters.”
       - “There is a free collection site for used oil and used motor oil filters located at (name of business and street address).”
       - “For the location of a free collection site for used oil and used motor oil filters call (toll-free phone number).”
       - “Here is a list of free collection sites for used oil and used motor oil filters.”
   - Call Weights and Measures for questions about this sign. See Table 2.
   - No  Continue on to the next question.

Mixing

16. Have you evaluated all of your wastes to determine if any are hazardous? (Spent solvents and paint and thinner wastes are often hazardous wastes.)
   - Yes  Continue on to the next question.
   - No
     - If you do collision or automotive repair, you probably generate hazardous waste.
     - You need to thoroughly evaluate all of your wastes to determine if any are hazardous wastes.
     - For more help with waste evaluation, See Hazardous Waste fact sheet #1.01, Step 1: Evaluate Waste; Determine Generator Size at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw1-01.pdf, or call SBEAP for a copy.
     - For further help, contact SBEAP or your County hazardous waste staff as appropriate. See Table 2.
17. Do you generate any hazardous waste?
   - No Skip to question 20.

18. Very small quantity generators (VSQGs) produce less than 220 pounds (about 22 gallons) of hazardous waste a month. Are you a VSQG?
   - Yes VSQGs can mix petroleum-based parts washer solvent with their used oil.
     - If you mix solvent with your used oil, you need to obtain a Hazardous Waste License, keep records of the amount you mix, and report it annually.
     - If you mix anything other than solvent with your used oil, stop this practice immediately.
   - No If you generate hazardous waste, and you are not a VSQG, do not mix anything with your used oil. Skip to question 20.

19. If you are a VSQG, and you mix solvent with your used oil, do you ensure that the solvent:
   - Does not contain metal-bearing paint?
   - Is not an F-listed hazardous waste? (For example, paint thinners or carburetor cleaners. See Table 1.)
   - Does not exceed 10 percent of the total volume of the final mixture?
   - Is not gasoline?
   - Flash point of the solvent is not below 100°Fahrenheit?
   - Yes You meet all of the above requirements.
   - No You are not meeting these requirements.
   - Not applicable. You are a VSQG, but you do not mix solvent with your used oil.

Transporting

   Note: To haul any amount of used oil you do not need to use a hazardous waste manifest or a hazardous waste transporter.

20. Do you use transport oil?
   - Yes
     - If you transport the waste yourself, you may haul up to 55 gallons of used oil from your business in your own vehicle, provided you ensure that it does not leak during transport.
     - If you hire a hauler to transport it, verify that your hauler has a Waste (Environmental Protection Agency) Identification number.
   - No Continue on to the next question.

Record keeping

21. Is your business located within Greater Minnesota (all but Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington County)?
   - Yes
     - If you generate and recycle only used oil and related oil waste, the MPCA does not require you to report annually or obtain a hazardous waste license.
     - If you generate more than 100 pounds (about 10 gallons) of any other hazardous wastes, the MPCA requires you to report annually and obtain a license. You also need to complete the Vehicle Maintenance Providers: Audit Checklist – Hazardous Waste.
   - No Your business may have reporting and licensing requirements for used oil. Contact your county hazardous waste staff for help determining these requirements. See Table 2 for contact information.

Used Oil Filter Management

Storing

22. Do you store used oil filters?
   - Yes Continue on to the next question.
   - No Skip to question 24.
23. If you store used oil filters, do you engage in any of the practices listed below?
- Crush the filters.
- Crush and dismantle the filters and remove the paper media.
- Drain the filters well and collect and recycle the drained used oil.
☐ Yes  Continue this practice.
☐ No   Begin one of these practices.

Hint: Newer filter designs don’t easily allow oil to be drained out through the open end. You need to puncture the closed, domed end of the filter and hot drain from that puncture in order to get the most oil out. Less oil in transported filters means less spill potential.

24. Do you dismantle the filters?
☐ Yes   Please do one of the following:
- Store and later transport the paper in a closed, leak-proof container that is in good condition and marked “Used Oil Filter Paper Media.”
- Place the paper media in the same container as combustible-sorbent media.
☐ No
- Drain the filters.
- Store these drained filters in a closed, leak-proof container that is in good condition and marked “Used Oil Filters.”
- Place containers on a surface that is reasonably impervious to used oil. (Recommended: asphalt or coated concrete.)

Disposal and recycling

25. If you separate paper media from used oil filters, do you do one or more of the following?:
- Recycle the metal part of the filter by sending it to a scrap metal recycling facility?
- Send the paper media to a burner that is permitted to accept oil filter media?
- Manage the paper media as a hazardous waste?
☐ Yes You meet these requirements. If you manage the paper media as a hazardous waste, you also need to complete the Vehicle Maintenance Providers: Audit Checklist – Hazardous Waste.
☐ No You are not meeting these requirements. Begin sending the metal to a scrap metal facility and follow one of the choices for the paper media.
☐ Not applicable. You do not separate paper media from used oil filters.

Transporting

26. Do you ensure that the oil filters do not contain free-flowing oil, and do not leak during transport?
☐ Yes  Continue these practices.
☐ No   You must ensure that used oil and used oil filters do not escape from the containers used during transport. Begin these practices.

Record keeping and reporting

27. If you use a hauler, do you keep receipts from the hauler at your business for at least three years? (For protection from future liability, we recommend that you never discard them.)
☐ Yes You meet this requirement.
☐ No  You are not meeting this requirement.
☐ Not applicable. You do not use a hauler.

28. If you do your own transporting, do you record and retain the records listed below for at least three years? (For protection from future liability, we recommend that you never discard them.)
- Number of used oil filters you generated
- Date of shipment
- Name and location of the place where you took the filters
☐ Yes You meet this requirement.
☐ No  You are not meeting this requirement.
☐ Not applicable. You do not do your own transporting.
Used Oil Spill Management

29. Do you:
   - Use appropriate tools such as funnels and spigots to fill containers?
   - Perform regular preventative maintenance, such as tightening or replacing leaky seals, gaskets, and dispensers?
   □ Yes  Continue these practices.
   □ No   Begin these practices.

30. Do you keep spill containment and cleanup materials accessible?
   □ Yes   You meet this requirement.
   □ No    You are not meeting this requirement.

31. Do you train your employees in spill prevention, including the use of spill containment and cleanup materials?
   □ Yes   Continue this practice.
   □ No    Begin this practice.

32. Do you regularly service any oil-water separators on the drain that runs to the sewer by:
   - Skimming the oil off the top and placing it in the used oil container?
   - Then removing, evaluating, and properly managing the grit that collects?
   □ Yes   You are meeting this requirement. If you manage the grit as hazardous waste, you also need to complete the Vehicle Maintenance Providers: Audit Checklist – Hazardous Waste.
   □ No    You are not meeting this requirement. Begin these practices.
   - For help with waste evaluation, see Hazardous Waste fact sheet #1.01, Step 1: Evaluate Waste; Determine Generator Size at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw1-01.pdf or call SBEAP for a copy. For further help, call SBEAP or your county hazardous waste staff (see Table 2).
   - If the evaluated grit turns out to be a hazardous waste, you also need to complete the Vehicle Maintenance Providers: Audit Checklist – Hazardous Waste.

Spill reporting

33. Do you report to the Minnesota Duty Officer any spills of five or more gallons of used oil, or of any amount that impacts the waters of the state?
   □ Yes   You are meeting this requirement.
   □ No    You must report these spills. We recommend that you post the Minnesota Duty Officer number by your phone: 651-649-5451 and 800-422-0798.

Spill cleanup

34. Do you:
   - Capture oil leaks and drips directly into pans, trays, troughs, or mats underneath machines, vehicles, and dispensing barrel spigots?
   - Plug nearby drains when an oil spill occurs?
   - Use squeegees and dustpans or mops designed for oil-spill cleanup?
   - Vacuum up or pour spilled oil into drums?
   - Use sorbent materials that you can wring and reuse to barricade and soak up oil spills you cannot capture directly?
   - Contact a contractor for assistance when needed?
   □ Yes   Continue these practices.
   □ No    Begin these practices.
   Hint: Using sorbents will always generate a waste requiring treatment or disposal. Cleanable, reusable tools work without generating added waste. A squeegee and dustpan will get up 95 percent of your spill before you ever need to reach for the sorbent. Use a window mesh to screen out the debris before draining into your oil collection.

Used Oil Sorbent Management

35. When you clean up drips and spills of used oil, do you keep the oil-containing sorbents free from all other wastes?
   □ Yes   Continue this practice.
   □ No    Begin this practice. Never clean up other wastes with the same sorbents you have used to clean up a used oil spill.
36. If you store spent sorbents, do you:
   - Remove all free liquid from the sorbents and place the liquid in used oil containers?
   - Store sorbents in a closed container that is in good condition and labeled with the words “Used Oil Sorbents”?
   - Place containers on a surface that is reasonably impervious to used oil? (We recommend asphalt or coated concrete.)
   □ Yes  You meet these requirements.
   □ No   You are not meeting these requirements.
   □ Not applicable. You do not store spent sorbents.

37. Can you launder and reuse the sorbents you use for cleaning up used oil spills?
   □ Yes   You do not need to test the sorbents to determine if they are a hazardous waste.
   □ No    Continue on to the next question.
   **Hint:** Make sure that the disposable sorbent you do use is put through a workout. Granular products should be put down, picked up and reapplied as many times as possible. Fabrics should be wrung out and reused until they fall apart.

38. Do you burn combustible oil-containing sorbents for energy recovery?
   □ Yes  You do not need to test the sorbents to determine if they are hazardous waste provided they have a heating value of 5,000 Btu per pound.
   □ No    Skip to question 40.

39. If you either send the oil-containing sorbents to a commercial burning facility that accepts the materials or burn the sorbents in your space heater, do you:
   □ Yes  You meet these requirements.
   □ No    Make contacts as needed. Follow up with any necessary corrections and begin these practices.
   □ Not applicable. You do not send the oil-containing sorbents to a commercial burning facility that accepts the materials or burn the sorbents in your space heater.

40. Do you handle your oil-soaked sorbents in some way other than laundering or burning?
   □ Yes
   - You must evaluate these sorbents to determine whether or not they are hazardous.
   - For help with waste evaluation, see Hazardous Waste fact sheet #1.01, Step 1: Evaluate Waste; Determine Generator Size at [http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw1-01.pdf](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw1-01.pdf) or call SBEAP for a copy. For further help, call SBEAP or your county hazardous waste staff as appropriate (see Table 2).
   - If these sorbents turn out to be a hazardous waste, you also need to complete the Vehicle Maintenance Providers: Audit Checklist – Hazardous Waste.
   □ No    Continue on to the next question.

Transporting

41. If you transport your used oil or used oil filters, do you transport less than 55 gallons, at any one time?
   □ Yes
   - Ensure that the containers do not leak.
   - Transport them in your own vehicle.
   □ No    Hire a used oil transporter.
   □ Not applicable. You do not haul your used oil or used oil filters.

Retiring equipment, closing or selling your business

42. If you take equipment out of service or cease operations, have you:
   □ Yes  You are meeting these requirements.
   □ Not applicable. You have not taken equipment out of service or ceased operations.
Table 1  
F-Listed Solvents

Check the solvent’s Material Safety Data Sheet for a description of contents.

F001 Solvents (used in degreasing):
methylene chloride (dichloromethane); trichloroethylene; tetrachloroethylene (perchloroethylene); 1,1,1-trichloroethane; carbon tetrachloride; chlorinated fluorocarbons; and all spent solvent mixtures/blends used in degreasing containing, before use, a total of 10 percent or more by volume of one or more F001, F002, F004, or F005 solvents.

F002 Solvents:
methylene chloride (dichloromethane); trichloroethylene; tetrachloroethylene (perchloroethylene); 1,1,1-trichloroethane; 1,1,2-trichloroethane, chlorobenzene; orthodichlorobenzene; trichlorofluoromethane; 1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane; and all spent solvent mixtures/blends containing, before use, a total of 10 percent or more by volume of one or more F001, F002, F004, or F005 solvents.

F003 Solvents:
xylene; acetone; methanol; methyl isobutyl ketone; n-butyl alcohol; ethyl acetate; ethyl benzene; ethyl ether; cyclohexanone; and all spent solvent mixtures/blends containing, before use, only the above spent solvents.

F004 Solvents:
cresols and cresylic acid; nitrobenzene; and all spent solvent mixtures/blends containing, before use, a total of 10 percent or more by volume of one or more F001, F002, F004, or F005 solvents.

F005 Solvents:
toluene; methyl ethyl ketone; benzene; carbon disulfide; 2-ethoxyethanol; isobutanol; 2-nitropropane; pyridine; and all spent solvent mixtures/blends containing before use, a total of 10 percent or more by volume of one or more F001, F002, F004, or F005 solvents.

Table 2  
Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPCA Web site</th>
<th><a href="http://www.pca.state.mn.us">http://www.pca.state.mn.us</a></th>
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<td>Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP)</td>
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<td>Tanks Program</td>
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<td>Metropolitan Counties Hazardous Waste Staff</td>
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<td>Anoka County</td>
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<td>800-422-0798</td>
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Table 3  
On-Specification Used Oil

Used oil to be burned for energy recovery is considered on-specification if it does not exceed any of the following allowable levels:

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<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flash point</td>
<td>100º Fahrenheit minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic, total</td>
<td>5 ppm maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium, total</td>
<td>2 ppm maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromium, total</td>
<td>10 ppm maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead, total</td>
<td>100 ppm maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halogens, total</td>
<td>1,000 ppm*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Up to 4,000 ppm halogens is allowed if it can be proven that hazardous waste has not been mixed with the used oil.

Let parts per million = ppm