

Introduction

Motor vehicle salvage facilities play a valuable role in society by recovering and reselling usable parts from worn-out or damaged vehicles, as well as recycling materials that can't be used in their present form. In the process, however, salvage yards also generate wastes that are potentially harmful to humans and the environment when they contaminate the soil, air, and surface and ground water.

The MPCA created this manual to help salvage yard owners, operators and employees manage and dispose of wastes in an environmentally safe way. Managing wastes properly is not only environmentally responsible, it is just plain good business. Spills and poorly managed wastes, such as piles of waste tires or leaking batteries, can create environmental damage that is expensive to clean up. Include the employee hours needed to clean up spills and it's clear that responsible waste management benefits everyone.

This manual offers a wide range of waste management techniques. Time, space and economic factors will determine which methods you choose. Also, it's important to know your local city and county regulations and incorporate them in your waste management plan.

How to Use this Manual

The manual will help you select the proper waste management options for your facility. Specific wastes and waste management methods are discussed in each chapter. State and federal licensing and permitting rules are discussed and referenced throughout the manual. Further information can be found in the appendix and also by calling the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Automotive Recyclers of Minnesota or Minnesota Technical Assistance Program. The manual is divided into four parts:

- **Chapter One - General Operating Procedures**

Includes spill prevention plans, storm water management guidelines, parts cleaning methods and vehicle crushing techniques that reduce pollution.

- **Chapter Two - Draining, Dismantling and Storage**

Outlines draining, dismantling and storage of parts and cores, including engines, transmission and radiators.

- **Chapter Three - Waste Handling, Storage and Disposal Practices**

Includes step-by-step management techniques for waste fluids and other components, such as waste tires and lead-acid batteries.

- **Resources**

Resources are included at the end of each section pointing toward additional information available on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Web site. Much of the additional information can be accessed at
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/industry/ts-main.html>