



Selling Motor Oil and Motor Oil Filters

Guidance for Minnesota retailers and oil change service providers

Motor oil includes both refined petroleum and synthetic lubricating and hydraulic fluids sold for use in internal combustion engines.

If managed improperly, used motor oil and used oil filters can contaminate land and water. Minnesota retailers of motor oil or motor oil filters must take specific actions to help citizens manage used oil and filters properly.

Are you a retailer of motor oil or motor oil filters?

You are a *retailer* if you sell motor oil or motor oil filters directly to citizens or businesses for their use. You are also a retailer if you replace motor oil or motor oil filters in citizen or business vehicles or equipment, such as by providing oil change service.

Requirements for retailers

1. Post a notice to customers.

Post either the sign suggested by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or your own notice. A printable copy of the suggested sign is attached to this fact sheet. If you use the MPCA's suggested sign, fill in at least one of the checkboxes and add the appropriate information.

If you post your own notice, it must be at least 8½ x 11 inches in size, include the universal recycling symbol and state:

*"It is illegal to put used oil and used motor oil filters in the garbage.
Recycle your used oil and used motor oil filters."*

The sign must also include at least one of the following statements:

- "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 ____."
(fill in the name and street address of the free collection site);
- "For the location of a free collection site for used oil and used motor oil filters call ____."
(fill in a toll-free telephone number that the public can call for a location)
- "Here is a list of free collection sites for used oil and used motor oil filters."
(attach a list of free collection sites within the city or a five-mile radius of the seller)

*Do not list the MPCA's 1-800 or any other MPCA telephone number on your sign for customers to call for used oil collection sites. The MPCA does not provide that service for retailers.

2. If you choose to collect used motor oil or motor oil filters, store and manage them properly.

You are not required to collect used motor oil or motor oil filters, but if you do, you must store and manage them properly. See MPCA hazardous waste fact sheet #w-hw4-30, [Used Oil and Related Wastes](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf>.

Voluntarily collecting used motor oil or motor oil filters

Retailers are not required to collect used motor oil or motor oil filters from the public. However, doing so may benefit your business by increasing customer numbers 'through the door,' enhancing public perception of your business, and providing low-cost fuel for heating your business or for selling to used oil marketers.

If you choose to accept used oil from the public, you may burn that used oil in an on-site space heater designed to burn used oil without testing the oil. You may be eligible for reimbursement for disposing of contaminated used oil you unknowingly receive from the public, but only if you take precautions to prevent contamination of your used oil. Reimbursement is limited to available funds. Examples of steps you may take include:

- controlling access to the used oil collection when your site is closed
- requiring businesses offering you used oil to identify themselves and segregating the used oil received from businesses
- training employees to inspect used oil by sight and smell before accepting it

For more information on burning used oil, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-32, [Burning Used Oil](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-32.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-32.pdf>.

More information

Guidance and requirements in this fact sheet were compiled from Minnesota Statutes, Chapters § 115A, § 239, and § 325E, and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7045. To review the Minnesota Statutes and Rules, visit the Office of the Revisor of Statutes at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/pubs>.

For more information, contact your metropolitan county hazardous waste office or your nearest MPCA regional staff. For information about waste reduction, contact the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP).

Metro County Hazardous Waste Offices

Anoka	763-422-7093
Carver	952-361-1800
Dakota	952-891-7557
Hennepin	612-348-3777
Ramsey	651-266-1199
Scott	952-496-8475
Washington	651-430-6655
Websites.....	http://www.co.[county].mn.us

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program

Toll free	1-800-247-0015
Metro	612-624-1300
Website	http://www.mntap.umn.edu

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Toll free (all offices)	1-800-657-3864
Brainerd	218-828-2492
Detroit Lakes	218-847-1519
Duluth	218-723-4660
Mankato.....	507-389-5977
Marshall	507-537-7146
Rochester	507-285-7343
St. Paul	651-296-6300
Willmar	320-214-3786
Website.....	http://www.pca.state.mn.us

Small Business Environmental Assistance

Toll free.....	1-800-657-3938
Metro	651-282-6143
Website.....	http://www.pca.state.mn.us/sbeap/



It is illegal to put used oil and used motor oil filters in the garbage.

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

For the location of a free collection site for used oil and used motor oil filters call _____.

Here is a list of free collection sites for used oil and used motor oil filters.



Minnesota
Pollution
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