



## **USED OIL RECYCLING PROGRAM IN UTAH**

Used Oil is a useful and valuable petroleum resource in Utah, but it can also pollute the state's water, land, air and the environment if not handled properly. Legislation passed earlier this year will help solve the problem of improper disposal of used oil by providing financial incentives to companies that collect used oil for recycling.

Nationwide, approximately 1.35 BILLION gallons of used oil is generated yearly. But only about 800 MILLION gallons are collected by recyclers for reuse. Nearly 10 million gallons of used oil is generated each year in Utah and needs to be recycled.

Managing used oil to maximize its economic value while minimizing pollution makes good sense to us. Since

recoverable either. The amount of used oil that can be recovered varies from 10 percent to 80 percent of the original amount, depending upon the application.

The Division hopes to lessen the impediments to proper collection and disposal of do-it-yourselfer used oil. We want to make oil collection centers convenient and provide residents with information and education programs. Additional markets are needed for recycled motor oil and funding will be necessary to run a comprehensive program.

The program should make it easier for home mechanics to properly dispose of used motor oil by arranging for a statewide system of used oil collection centers. A list of centers is available from the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste by calling 538-6170. It is hoped that a financial incentive of a four-cent per gallon return on every quart collected for recycling will increase the number

-Controls on used oil stored in aboveground tanks and containers to lessen the chance of spills.

-Assuring that used oil is sent to authorized recycling centers through tracking and record-keeping requirements for used oil transporters, processors and re-refiners.

-Standards to control oil released to the environment during storage and transit.

Generators are businesses that produce used oil through commercial or industrial operations or those that collect it from these operations or private households.

Common generators include vehicle repair shops; service

if they comply with the management requirements, send used oil for recycling and accept used oil from do-it-yourselfers.

The standards also apply to used oil processors and re-refiners who handle and store large quantities of used oil. Stronger controls may be needed there because data indicates that damage from mismanagement of used oil is not uncommon.

The processors and re-refiners must now:

- Obtain an EPA ID number and notify the agency of any activities concerning used oil.
- Maintain storage tanks and containers in good condition.
- Process and store used oil in areas with oil-impervious flooring and other containment

containers and store materials safely.

-Limit storage to 35 days at transfer facilities.

-Test waste located in out-of-service storage tanks for hazardous characteristics.

To ensure Utah's primacy from the EPA to manage waste oil, the Division must comply with and administer the federal waste oil management standards under 40 CFR Part 279.

The EPA management standards for used oil establishes a presumption that all used oil will be recycled.

The standards also assume that used oil containing more than 1,000 parts per million of total halogens is mixed with chlorinated hazardous waste. Companies may rebut the

by facilities, keep records on oil subject to regulation and establish a public education program to promote used oil recycling. The Division is operating the Used Oil Program under the Used Oil Emergency Rules approved by the Solid and Hazardous Waste Board and have been in effect since July 15, 1993. The Final Rules will replace the Emergency Rules and be adopted by the Board on November 12, 1993.

What the law really means, though, is Utah residents who want to recycle their used oil will now be able to do so. Thank you.