

# USED OIL & MATERIALS

- This resource is NOT intended as formal training or certification of new operators in the proper handling of Used Oil & Materials.
- Collection Sites should work with their Registered Processors to ensure that Used Oil Materials are program eligible, handled, stored, and prepared for transport appropriately.



## Section 1: What is the Used Oil & Materials Recycling Program?



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- ARMA assumed oversight of this program in 2018
- Currently nearly 250 collection sites and 14 – ARMA approved processors help to recycle these materials into reusable products

2.3 billion litres of used oil163.8 million oil filters46.4 million kg of oil containershave been recycled since 1997

#### **Used Oil & Containers**

Products included in this category are lubricating oils/fluids **not consumed in use** such as:

- circulating oil
- compressor oil
- crankcase oil (petroleum or synthetic)
- electrical insulating oil
- engine oil
- gear oil
- hydraulic fluid
- marine engine oil for vessels operating domestically
- mineral heat transfer fluid

- natural gas compressor oil not consumed in use
- paper machine oil
- petroleum crankcase oil
- polyolesterfluids
- power steering fluid
- refrigeration system oil
- re-refined oil
- synthetic crankcase oil
- transmission fluid
- turbine oil
- vegetable oil for lubrication
- vacuum pump oil



#### **Used Oil Containers Only**

Containers currently <u>not</u> accepted in Alberta's program include:





#### **Used Oil Filters**

- spin-on or element style filter used in hydraulic,
- transmission or internal combustion engine
- Applications including diesel fuel filter
- coolant filter
- diesel fuel filter used at retail & commercial

- pump islands
- household furnace fuel filter
- oil / air separator filter
- plastic / paper element style filter
- storage tank diesel fuel filter
- sump type automatic transmission filter
- locomotive filters



#### Section 2: Collection and Storage of Used Oil and Materials







Do not allow public direct access to the bulk tank

Do ensure that there is a separate spot for the public to leave their material



#### **Contamination is expensive!**

If non-oil liquids are bulked into your used oil tank, it can be costly to have a processor pick up the material. There is also a greater possibility that oil material could be spilled.



Tip!

To avoid contamination charges, only allow site attendants to bulk used oil into your tank as they will be able to better identify if the material is used oil or not.





### Do not leave the lid of your bulk tank or oil filter drum open



Do ensure the lid of your bulk tank and oil filter drum is closed/covered when not in use



Water in your oil tank is considered contamination and will take up space in your tank, ultimately filling it up faster. It is costly for the Processors to remove larger amounts of water which will then be passed onto the collection site.



Tip! Ensure the bulk tank lid is securely closed or locked to encourage only staff access to the tank and increase control.





#### Do not place oil filters into cracked, or leaking containers



Do ensure oil filters are collected in a leakproof, metal 45-gallon drum



Some used oil filters may still have oil inside them, and when they are deposited into the collection container they may begin to leak. If your containment is not leakproof this can lead to ground or water contamination.



Tip!

Work with your processor on their preferred containment method, likely a 45-gallon drum.





Do not collect oil filters in open containers exposed to the elements



Do ensure the oil filter collection containers have a proper fitting lid or is placed within/under a roofed structure



If residual oil has drained into the containment, and moisture then finds its way into the container it will create contaminated water which can be costly to dispose of. There is also the potential that the water will cause the container to rust or crack and compromise its integrity and ability to stop leaks.



Tip!

Use alternative material to cover the drum during operating hours, such as a small piece of wood or plastic, and then replace the metal lid when the site is not in use. This can ensure the drum is easily accessible to the public but is still protected from moisture.





#### Do not put all empty containers into one bag



Do ensure processor supplied bags are visible for empty used oil containers to be placed into, and that a separate bag is available for any empty ineligible/non-oil containers



Containers like antifreeze, and DEF are not currently part of the used oil program and therefore, need to be kept separate.



Tip!

Work with your processor on how best to separate material. Often separating eligible containers from non-eligible containers is a more manageable task at the collection site level, rather than relying on processors to do so.





Do not leave full bags, or empty pails directly on the ground, or upside-down if possible

Do ensure that full bags, and empty pails are placed in an upright position on/within secondary containment such as on a spill pallet or in a shed/building



Some containers may still have residual oil in them even after being emptied, which has the potential to leak out of the bag if the bag is torn, knocked over, or accidentally stored upside down.

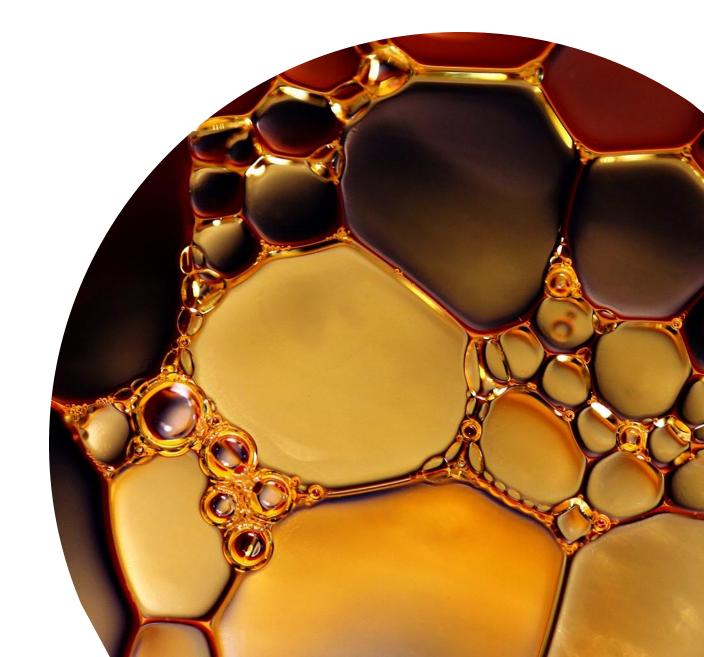


Tip!

Ensure your collection area has supports on each side, this can prevent the bags from falling over.



Section 3: What happens to Used Oil & Materials collected in Alberta?



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#### How are Used Oil and Materials Recycled?

High-quality used oil is refined into new lubricating oil. Used Oil
is used to bind asphalt, water heating for fracking as well as an
additive to explosives in mining.

Filters are crushed and processed into rebar.

 Containers get new life as composite lumber, fence posts, and parking curbs after they've been pelletized and distributed to plastic product producers.



#### Thank you for doing your part to recycle oil, filters, and containers!

#### Questions?

Feel free to contact ARMA using one of the methods listed below or visit albertarecycling.ca

#### Via Email:

- Field services@albertarecycling.ca
- Collection.sites@albertarecycling.ca

#### Via Phone:

- Local 780.990.1111
- Toll-free 1.888.999.8762

