

Motor Oil:



Once oil gets into a drinking water supply, for example, it's very difficult, time consuming and expensive to remove. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the oil from just one oil change could contaminate 1 million gallons of water.

Major companies also encourage oil recycling, if only because it's better for their bottom line: while it takes about 42 gallons of crude oil to produce 2.5 quarts of motor oil, it takes just one gallon of used motor oil to be refined into the same amount of "new" motor oil.

General steps for disposing of motor oil:

❖ Drain the oil

- Drain the oil into a pan that can hold twice the volume of oil in the engine's crankcase.
- Drain the oil when the engine is warm to ensure that any sludge flows out smoothly. Caution: the oil will be hot! Keep draining until the oil has slowed to an intermittent drip.

- Replace the drain plug and carefully move the oil pan to a location where you can safely pour the oil into a container. Wipe up any drips with a paper towel.

❖ Carefully transfer the dirty oil

- Using a funnel, pour the oil into a clean, leak-proof container with a tight-fitting lid—a rigid plastic container such as a plastic milk jug works well. Be careful not to overfill the container!

Caution :

1. Don't put used oil in containers that hold chemicals like bleach, pesticides, paint, or antifreeze—they can contain residues that contaminate the oil. Avoid paint cans and other metal containers.
2. Seal the bottle and label it as "Used Oil."
3. Power steering, transmission, and brake fluids can also be brought to used oil collection sites in separate containers (not mixed with used oil).
4. Never mix solvents, gasoline, or antifreeze with your used oil. Once contaminated with these products, it is difficult or impossible to recycle used motor oil. If your oil does become contaminated, label the container and take it to your local Household Hazardous Waste collection site for disposal. Don't take it to an oil recycling site where it could contaminate the tank, making the contents impossible to recycle and expensive to dispose of.

❖ Step 3: Drain the oil filter

- Put the used filter hole-side down to allow the oil to drain into a storage container for recycling. Allow the filter to drain overnight or at least 12 hours to remove all the oil.
- Place the old filter in a leak-proof container (coffee can with lid or resealable plastic bag). The oil filter may contain 2 to 8 ounces of motor oil even when drained!
- Replace the old oil filter with a new one. To support recycling programs, purchase oil filters from those businesses that accept used oil filters for recycling.

❖ Recycling

- To recycle your used oil properly, you'll either want to take it to an oil change facility that accepts oil containers or to a household waste recycling facility near you. Whichever option you choose, it's a good idea to search online or call first to make sure that the facility accepts containers of used oil and to find out the hours of operation.

