

# Recycle your *Used Motor Oil*

## **Why be concerned about used motor oil?**

Oil is toxic to people, wildlife, and plants. Each year in the US, 180 million gallons of used motor oil (equivalent to 16 Exxon Valdez spills) is improperly disposed of by people who change their own motor oil.

Oil dumped on the ground, in a landfill, or poured down the drain does not go “away.” The oil flows underground and can eventually end up in waterways, ground water, and drinking water.



## **DID YOU KNOW...**

- *Motor oil never wears out*, it just gets dirty. Oil can be recycled (re-refined) and used over and over.
- Recycled oil is just as good as oil made from virgin crude. In Germany, Mercedes Benz Company fills up every new car it makes with recycled oil.
- The amount of oil from just one oil change (about four quarts) can pollute **one million gallons** of fresh water!

## **Dispose of oil safely**

- *Return it in sturdy, well sealed containers* to the point of purchase (remember to save your receipt).
- *Bring it to your community's drop-off site* or save it for a Household Hazardous Waste collection day.
- *Keep used oil separate*. Never mix it with gasoline, anti-freeze, or any other material.

## **NEVER POUR USED OIL...**

- on the ground
- down the drain
- into storm drains or sewers
- into lakes, streams or rivers
- onto dirt roads (for dust control)

## **Helpful tips**

- *Fix oil leaks promptly.*
- *Use ground cloths or drip pans beneath your vehicle if you have leaks or are doing engine work.*
- *Clean up spills!*

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