



Used Oil Burning

Used oil includes petroleum-based or synthetic-based oils that have been used as lubricants, hydraulic fluids, heat transfer fluids, or for similar uses. Used oil-related wastes include any waste or debris contaminated with used oil. Manage used oil-related wastes intended for burning the same as used oil.

See Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) fact sheet #w-hw4-30, [Used Oil and Related Wastes: Management Guidance for Generators](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf> for more information on identifying used oil and related wastes.

Before you burn used oil or sell/donate it for burning

You must determine whether used oil is *on-specification* or *off-specification* before you burn it, sell it, or give it to anyone else to burn. This is required whether you are a used oil generator, collector, transporter, marketer, or burner.

Used oil is considered *off-specification* until it is tested and shown to meet the levels in Table 1. Used oil that meets these levels is considered *on-specification*. You only have to test used oil once, unless the source of the used oil changes.

If the used oil is from electrical transformers, other electrical equipment, or natural gas pipeline equipment such as scrubbers or drip legs, you must assume the used oil contains 50 parts per million (ppm) or more polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and is a PCB hazardous waste until you test it or otherwise document that it contains less than 50 ppm PCBs. Test used oil from each separate piece of electrical or natural gas pipeline equipment. Do not mix the oil from several pieces of equipment or draining events and batch test the mixture.

For more information regarding PCB hazardous wastes, see MPCA hazardous waste fact sheet #w-hw4-48a, [Identifying and Using PCBs](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-48a.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-48a.pdf>.

Table 1: On-specification used oil

Test for:	Result must be:
Flash point	100° Fahrenheit or higher
Arsenic	5 parts per million (ppm) or less
Cadmium	2 ppm or less
Chromium	10 ppm or less
Lead	100 ppm or less
PCBs	2 ppm or less
Halogens	1000 ppm/4000 ppm* maximum

*Used oil containing more than 1000 ppm total halogens is a fully regulated hazardous waste unless you can document that it does not contain more than 100 ppm of any individual halogen, in which case you may consider it on-specification used oil as long as it contains less than 4000 ppm of total halogens.

Declaring used oil to be on-specification

Whoever is the first to declare that used oil is on-specification, whether it is the original generator, a transporter, or a broker, is considered a *used oil marketer*. Used oil marketers must notify the MPCA of their activity using MPCA form #w-hw7-09, [Notification of Regulated Waste Activity](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw7-09.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw7-09.pdf>.

Keep a copy of the used oil test results proving the used oil is on-specification for at least three years.

For more information on requirements for used oil marketers, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-34, [Used Oil and Related Wastes: Guidance for Marketers](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-34.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-34.pdf>.

Burning on-specification used oil

Once used oil has been documented as on-specification, it may be burned or sold for burning similar to a refined fuel oil. No further hazardous waste requirements apply, however air quality protection standards applicable to all fuel oil products, such as sulfur limits, may need to be followed.

Burning off-specification used oil

Off-specification used oil may only be burned in:

- a space heater by the business that generated the used oil or accepted it from households or farmers. For more information on burning off-specification used oil you generated or received in a space heater, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-30, [Used Oil and Related Wastes: Management Guidance for Generators](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw4-30.pdf>.
- a marine or diesel engine by any business.
- an industrial or utility furnace or boiler by any business.

Burning off-specification used oil in engines, furnaces, or boilers

Industrial or utility furnaces or boilers include only those at manufacturing or utility sites that are used for industrial process heat or energy production, or that produce heat or energy products for sale.

If you burn off-specification used oil in an industrial or utility furnace or boiler, or in a marine or diesel engine, you must:

- Notify the MPCA of your burning activity using MPCA form #w-hw7-09, [Notification of Regulated Waste Activity](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw7-09.pdf), at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hw7-09.pdf>.
- Provide a written certification to each supplier you receive off-specification used oil from stating that you have notified the MPCA of your activity and that the used oil will be burned in an eligible device. Maintain a copy of these certifications for three years after the last shipment from each supplier.
- Maintain records of each shipment of off-specification used oil you receive, including:
 - the date
 - the volume of used oil
 - the name and Hazardous Waste Identification Numbers (HWIDs) of the source of the used oil and transporter that transported it to your site
 - documentation that the shipment meets the used oil specifications halogen standard in Table 1

Maintain these records for three years after the shipment.

- If storing used oil in tanks, meet aboveground storage tank (AST) or underground storage tank (UST) requirements for those tanks.

For more information on AST requirements, see MPCA fact sheet #t-a1-02, [General Requirements for Aboveground Storage Tanks](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/t-a1-02.pdf) at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/t-a1-02.pdf>.

For more information on UST requirements, see MPCA webpage, [Underground Storage Tank \(UST\) Systems](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/enzq88e) at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/enzq88e>.

- If storing used oil in containers, mark containers with the words 'Used Oil', and ensure they are closed and provided with complete secondary containment.
- Evaluate residue from burning off-specification used oil or assume the residue is hazardous waste.
- Immediately clean up any spills of used oil. Report spills of used oil greater than five gallons to the Minnesota Duty Officer.

Reminder: Keep records of the amount of off-specification used oil you burn. You may be required to annually report this amount to the MPCA on your hazardous waste license application or another form.

More information

Guidance and requirements in this fact sheet were compiled from Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7045. To review Minnesota 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 reducing your generation of used oil and related wastes, 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

Small Business Environmental Assistance

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

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

Minnesota Duty Officer

Toll free.....	1-800-422-0798
Metro	651-649-5451