



**IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY**

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Energy Conservation Tips for Vehicle Repair Shops

- ❑ Take advantage of the used-oil exemption rule by installing an oil-drip heater for your facility. Under this rule, you can burn your used oil and generate heat at your facility reducing the disposal costs associated with oil and lowering your winter heating bills.
- ❑ Keep interior doors closed that separate bay areas from the rest of the building.
- ❑ Install a person-sized door into the overhead door to minimize exposure to the outside.
- ❑ Make sure bay area doors are well insulated.
- ❑ Install an exhaust fan system with hose connections to tailpipes to remove exhaust fumes without displacing the heated or cooled air in the service area.
- ❑ Install programmable thermostats that adjust the heat depending on time of day and building use.
- ❑ Proper maintenance of equipment, including vehicle repair equipment, heating, cooling and office equipment, is essential for obtaining maximum energy efficiency. Check and replace filters often and follow manufacturer-recommended maintenance schedules.
- ❑ Turn off computers and equipment when not in use and at the end of the day.
- ❑ Buy energy-efficient photocopiers and fax machines. These models use half the energy of regular machines and offer a corresponding cost savings.
- ❑ Landscaping (adding trees or a berm) around a building can provide shade in the summer and protection against wind in the winter – lowering heating and cooling costs and saving money.
- ❑ Turn off lights when an area (break room, bathroom or storage closet) is unoccupied.
- ❑ Use compact fluorescent lighting¹. These lights produce three times as much light per watt as incandescent bulbs, and usually last 20 times longer.
- ❑ Install timing devices on lights, vending machines and copiers to power down the machines during times of low use or purchase equipment with this option.
- ❑ Replace incandescent exit lights with three to seven watt LED exit lights. These lights last longer (up to 25 years) and reduce maintenance costs.
- ❑ Have your local utility conduct an energy audit of your shop; many offer this service free of charge.

¹ Note: Fluorescent lighting contains mercury and should be recycled or properly disposed. Visit DEQ's on-line recycling directory at www.deq.idaho.gov/waste/recycling/recycle_home.cfm for services in your area.