

What is a used-oil generator?

A **regulated used-oil generator** is any person, or site, whose act or process causes used oil to become subject to regulation. Some examples of generators are vehicle repair shops; service stations; motorpools; taxi, bus, or delivery fleets; city, county or state maintenance fleets; and shipyards.

There are over 1,000 regulated used-oil generators in Idaho.

Used oil is any oil that has been refined from crude oil, or any synthetic oil, that has been used and, as a result, is contaminated by physical or chemical impurities. If not managed safely, used oil can pose a threat to humans and the environment. For example, disposing of used oil improperly can lead to contamination of drinking water, surface water, ground water, and soils. For these reasons, it is important that you understand and comply with federal and state regulations.*

A household **do-it-yourselfer (DIY)** is a person who changes his or her own oil. DIYs are not considered generators and, therefore, are not subject to the regulations discussed in this brochure. Also exempt are farmers who generate an average of 25 gallons of used oil per month or less.

A **DIY used-oil collection center** is any site or facility that only accepts or aggregates and stores used oil collected from individuals who generate used oil through the maintenance of their own personal vehicles. These centers *are* subject to the regulations discussed in this brochure.

* Full text of applicable regulations is available online:

- 40 CFR § 279, Standards for the Management of Used Oil (adopted by Idaho in 1994): http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_99/40cfr279_99.html
- IDAPA 58.01.05.015: <http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/58/0105.pdf>

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DEQ Used Oil Webpage: www.deq.idaho.gov/used-oil

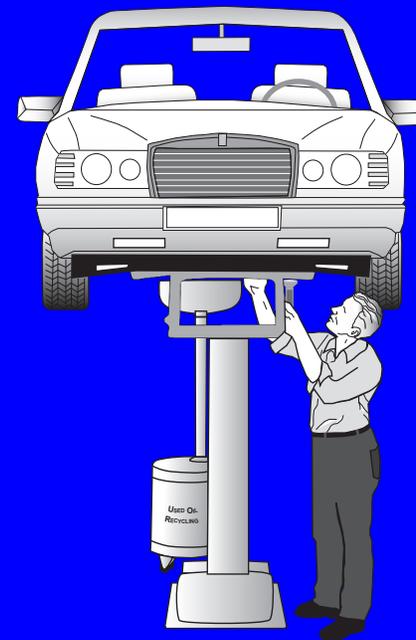
Used Oil Information Series

This is part of a series of brochures on used oil. Other brochures cover used-oil regulations for marketers, transporters, and burners of off-specification used oil.



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Your Guide to Idaho's Regulations for Generators of Used Oil



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Basic requirements for used-oil generators

Used-oil generators and DIY collection centers must meet these requirements:

- Store used oil only in tanks and containers that are in good condition with no severe rusting, apparent structural defects or deterioration and not leaking.
- Mark containers, aboveground tanks, and fill pipes with the words "USED OIL."
- Use a transporter with an EPA identification number when shipping used oil off-site. This is a unique number issued by DEQ to track used oil and hazardous waste activities.
- Immediately stop used-oil releases, contain the used oil, clean up the spill or release, and repair or replace any leaking used-oil storage containers or tanks prior to returning to service.

Generators and DIY collection centers may also be subject to Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan requirements depending on the amount of used oil stored.

Note: Used oil may **NOT** be applied as a dust suppressant at any time.

The regulations governing used oil generators are found in 40 CFR § 270 Subpart C (IDAPA 58.01.05.015).

What are used-oil fuel marketers?

Used-oil fuel marketers

- direct shipments of off-specification used oil from their facility to a used-oil burner or
- first claim that used oil to be burned for energy recovery meets the specifications set forth in 40 CFR § 279.11

If you meet one or both of these criteria, your facility is subject to regulation under 40 CFR § 279 Subpart H (see the Used Oil Marketer brochure for more information).

Best management practices for used-oil generators and DIY collection centers

Generators should follow these best management practices:

- Choose used-oil transporters and recycling facilities carefully.
- Confirm that the transporter has an EPA identification number and know where your used oil is taken after it leaves your facility. Keep records of shipments.
- Employ and enforce good housekeeping procedures to avoid spills and contamination of recyclable materials.
- Do not mix used oil with gasoline, brake cleaner, carburetor cleaner, other solvents, or hazardous materials. Even small amounts of these materials may turn recyclable oil into a hazardous waste.
- Teach staff about the used-oil regulations.

Recycling of used-oil filters

Used-oil filters can be recycled for their scrap metal value, and if the oil is removed, are exempt from hazardous waste requirements when properly recycled. To properly recycle used-oil filters:

- Puncture the non-terne plated filter anti-drain back valve or the filter dome end. (Non-terne filters are used in most cars and light trucks.)
- Crush or dismantle and hot-drain the filter (or use equivalent method). Hot draining entails draining the oil filter at near engine operating temperature and above room temperature (60 °F) for at least 12 hours.
- Properly manage used oil collected from filters.



Recycling of used oil

Used oil can be recycled to make new lubricants or used as an industrial fuel when properly managed. Be sure the used oil that is removed from your site will be properly managed. If your used oil is mismanaged by a used-oil management firm, you may be liable for cleanup costs or cited for hazardous waste management violations.

Note these prohibitions:

- ⊗ Do not discharge used oil to sewers, drainage ditches, septic tanks, or streams.
- ⊗ Do not dispose of used oil in a trash dumpster with your solid waste. Solid waste landfills cannot accept liquids.
- ⊗ Do not use used oil for road oiling, dust control, weed control, or similar purposes.

Did you know?

- One pint of oil can form a slick the size of a square acre on surface water.
- One quart of oil will foul the taste of 250,000 gallons of drinking water.