



## Used Oil Generators

A used oil generator is a business that produces used oil from vehicle and equipment maintenance or through commercial or industrial operations. Household do-it-yourselfers (DIYs), individuals who change their own vehicle's oil, are not considered generators. A DIY collection facility that accepts used oil collected from DIYs, called a DIY collection center, is subject to the generator regulations.

### Basic Requirements for Used Oil Generators

#### DO:

- Store used oil only in tanks and containers that are in good condition with no leaking, severe rusting, apparent structural defects, or deterioration.
- Mark containers, aboveground tanks, and fill pipes connected to underground storage tanks with "USED OIL."
- Use a transporter with an EPA identification number when shipping used oil off site.
- 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 before returning to service.

#### DO NOT:

- Utilize used oil for dust control, road oiling, weed control, or apply it to the ground or vegetation.
- Discharge used oil to sewers, drainage ditches, septic tanks, or streams.
- Dispose of used oil in a dumpster with your solid waste.
- Provide your used oil to another business to burn without testing it first. The Testing and Marketing Use Oil guidelines below provide more information.

Generators should follow these best management practices:

- Keep records of shipments made for at least 3 years.
- Employ good housekeeping to avoid spills and contamination.
- Do not mix fuel, brake cleaner, solvents, or hazardous materials with used oil.

### Used Oil Filters

Used oil filters can be recycled for their scrap metal value if the oil is removed. The filters are exempt from the used oil requirements when properly recycled or disposed of using the following methods:

- Puncture the nonterne-plated filter, antidrain back valve, or filter dome end.
- Crush or dismantle and hot drain the filter. Hot draining drains 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 under the requirements above.

## Other Used Oil Activities

**Burning Used Oil**—Generators may burn used oil in a space heater on site under these conditions:

- They only burn their own used oil and/or used oil received from household DIYs.
- The heater does not exceed a maximum capacity of 0.5 million Btu per hour.
- The combustion gases from the heater are vented to the ambient air.

**Testing and Marketing Used Oil**—Marketers test used oil to determine if it meets certain specifications that allows it to be used as a fuel by a burner who did not generate the used oil. Used oil is considered on-specification when it does not exceed any of the allowable levels listed in Table 1.

- If used oil is determined to be on-specification, the used oil regulations no longer apply to that oil. It can be stored, transported, and burned as a fuel oil. Analytical and transport records should be maintained to justify this designation. **Note:** A generator can accept used oil from another generator to burn in a space heater if the used oil is tested and determined to be on-specification before acceptance.
- If used oil is determined to be off-specification, all used oil regulations still apply.

Generators who test their own used oil or send off-specification used oil to be burned are also considered used oil marketers and must do the following:

- Notify DEQ to obtain an EPA ID number.
- Keep copies of used oil analyses for at least 3 years.
- Keep a record of each used oil shipment to a burner for at least 3 years.

**Table 1. Used oil specifications.**

Constituent/Property	Allowable Level
Arsenic	5 parts per million (ppm) maximum
Cadmium	2 ppm maximum
Chromium	10 ppm maximum
Lead	100 ppm maximum
Flash point	100°F minimum
Total halogens	4,000 ppm maximum <sup>2</sup>

**Self-Transport of Used Oil**—Generators may self-transport used oil generated at their own site or collected from DIYs under the following conditions:

- The generator transports no more than 55 gallons of used oil at any time.
- The generator transports the used oil in a vehicle owned by the generator or owned by an employee of the generator.
- The used oil is transported to a used oil collection center registered to manage used oil or to an aggregation point owned and/or operated by the same entity as the generator.

## For More Information

For specific questions, contact your nearest DEQ regional office:

- Boise: (208) 373-0550
- Coeur d'Alene: (208) 769-1422
- Idaho Falls: (208) 528-2650
- Lewiston: (208) 799-4370
- Pocatello: (208) 236-6160
- Twin Falls: (208) 736-2190

For general information, visit [www.deq.idaho.gov](http://www.deq.idaho.gov) or call the Hazardous Waste Bureau at DEQ's State Office at (208) 373-0502.