



## FACTS ABOUT USED MOTOR OIL

- ◆ One quart of used motor oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water. Or:
- ◆ One gallon of used motor oil can contaminate one million gallons of water: a year's supply for 50 people!
- ◆ One oil change from one car engine can create an eight-acre oil slick.
- ◆ Oil films on water block sunlight and oxygen from reaching water plants and fish.
- ◆ The amount of used motor oil disposed of improperly by Do-it-Yourselfer auto mechanics every three weeks in the US. is about the amount of oil spilled by the Exxon Valdez super tanker in Alaska: 11 million gallons!
- ◆ One gallon of used oil that is re-refined will produce about 2½ quarts of lubricating oil. Producing the same amount takes 42 gallons of crude oil.
- ◆ Re-refining used motor oil takes only 1/3 the energy of refining crude oil to lubricant quality.
- ◆ If all the used motor oil disposed of improperly each year by US Do-it-Yourselfers were recycled, it could produce enough energy to power 360,000 homes or provide 96 million quarts of high-grade motor oil.
- ◆ If all the waste oil generated in the US each year were re-refined, we would save 1.3 million barrels of oil per day, or half the output of the Alaska pipeline.
- ◆ 40% of the pollution in America's waterways is from used motor oil.
- ◆ Used motor oil often contains toxic metals such as lead, cadmium, arsenic, and chromium. These can seep into ground water when dumped on the ground or in the trash.
- ◆ Not recycling used motor oil causes not only environmental damage and a human health hazard: it's also a missed opportunity to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil.
- ◆ When oil is taken to a Used Oil Collection Center, it is picked up by a licensed hauler. It is then either used as fuel in special non-polluting burners, or re-refined into new oil.
- ◆ The only right way to dispose of used motor oil is to recycle it. Putting it in the trash, on the ground, or down the drain causes pollution and is illegal.