Proper Handling and Disposal of Vehicle Wastes

Tires:
A waste tire fee is collected on new and used tires that are sold in Oklahoma. The amounts are determined by the size of the tire rim. If the rim size is less than or equal to 19 ½”, the fee is $2.50 per tire. If the rim size is greater than 19 ½”, the fee is $3.50 per tire. If a tire rim is greater than 19 ½” and wider than 12”, the fee is $7.00. The fee for tires to be used on motorcycles, minibikes, motor-driven cycles or motorized bicycles is $1.00 per tire.

Beginning November 1, 2017, a new fee structure for tires used on implements of husbandry and agricultural equipment was enacted. For agricultural tires with a rim size that is less than or equal to 19 ½”, the fee is $2.50 per tire. If the rim size is greater than 19 ½” and up to 30” in total diameter, the fee is $3.50 per tire. For agricultural tires greater than 30” and up to 44” in total diameter, the fee is $8.00 per tire. For agricultural tires greater than 44” in total diameter but less than or equal to 72” in total diameter, the fee is $16.00. Fees do not have to be collected if the customer keeps the used agricultural tire for use on a farm or ranch.

For further information about waste tires, call Waste Tire Program Customer Assistance at (405) 702-5175.

Used Motor Oil:
The State of Oklahoma has adopted the federal used oil regulations (40 CFR Part 279) that set forth standards for the management of used oil. Used oil that is recycled is not considered a hazardous waste; however, used oil from businesses that is disposed has to be tested to determine if it is a hazardous waste. Used oil may test hazardous for metals and benzene. If hazardous, used oil must be managed according to the hazardous waste regulations and the generator must dispose of the used oil at a hazardous waste disposal facility.

Testing can be done at commercial laboratories. Information about testing requirements or other hazardous waste management requirements can be obtained from DEQ’s Land Protection Division at (405) 702-5100. In lieu of disposing of used oil, generators may wish to consider recycling. Used oil that is destined for recycling does not have to be tested for its hazardous characteristics. However many oil recyclers do test for halogens. There are several companies in Oklahoma that provide a recycling service for used motor oil and transmission fluid, as well as antifreeze. It is a good idea to check with your bulk oil supplier to see if they can pick up used oil when they deliver your retail oil supply. Since the collection and management of used oil (and other types of vehicle fluids) is subject to certain standards, contracting with a reputable disposal/recycling company is important.
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**Oil Filters:**
Many of the companies who pick up used oil will accept oil filters. The filters need to be hot drained and if possible, crushed. There are restrictions on the disposal of oil filters, depending on whether they are terne-plated (an alloy of tin and lead) or non-terne-plated. Most oil filters made and sold today are non-terne-plated except for those on heavy equipment and large trucks. Generators of terne-plated filters sending them for disposal rather than recycling must determine whether they are hazardous by the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) test.

**Solvents:**
The solvent products which are purchased to clean parts may or may not be hazardous depending on the constituents of the solvent itself, and what was cleaned with it. There are specific regulatory stipulations for what is considered a hazardous waste. Spent solvents can be listed hazardous wastes, can be ignitable, or can contain metals at levels which would make them hazardous. The specifics for identifying a waste as hazardous can be found in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 261. Recycling of solvents may help avoid some of the high costs of disposing of the waste solvents at a hazardous waste disposal facility. There are companies in Oklahoma who perform recycling services.

Citrus or water-based solvents are effective and may be less hazardous to employees and to the environment.

Empty solvent containers need to be disposed with caution, although they can go to landfills authorized to receive nonhazardous industrial waste. Approval for disposal of these types of wastes is handled by DEQ’s Land Protection Division, Solid Waste Compliance Unit. This unit can be reached at (405) 702-5100.

**Lead-Acid Batteries:**
Automobile batteries are recyclable. Both the lead-acid component and the plastic case can be recycled. Most battery wholesalers have some mechanism to collect the batteries. Retailers that sell lead-acid batteries must post a sign informing the public that lead-acid batteries are accepted for recycling.

**General Waste Information:**
There are three classifications of hazardous waste generators: large, small, and conditionally exempt. Each is subject to specific individual regulations. Information regarding how to determine generator classification and the applicable requirements may be obtained from DEQ’s Land Protection Division at (405) 702-5100.