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# Used Oil Recycling in Fiscal 2001 and 2002: Report to the 78th Legislature

Prepared by  
Registration, Review & Reporting Division

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# The Used Oil Recycling Program

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers a Used Oil Recycling Program. It is managed by the Municipal Solid Waste Registration Team in the Registration, Review & Reporting Division, with technical oversight from the Technical Analysis Team in the Waste Permits Division of the Office of Permitting, Remediation & Registration. The primary function of the Used Oil Program is to ensure the safe management and recycling of used oil.

## ***Program Responsibilities***

The Used Oil Recycling Program is responsible for the following functions:

- # developing rules;
- # processing applications for registration of used oil collection centers and used oil handlers;
- # reviewing and processing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 8700-12 site notification forms;
- # processing of biennial reports submitted by used oil handlers and used oil filter handlers, and processing annual reports from collection centers; and
- # providing customer service to the regulated community, government agencies, and the general public.

## ***Program Funding***

This program is funded by revenues in the Used Oil Recycling Fund. Currently, this fund consists of:

- # the fee on the first sale of automotive oil; and
- # interest and penalties on late fees.

Total revenue for the Used Oil Recycling Program by fiscal year is as follows:

<b><i>Fiscal Year</i></b>	<b><i>Revenue</i></b>
1996	\$4.1 million
1997	\$3.2 million
1998	\$1.7 million
1999	\$1.6 million
2000	\$1.1 million
2001	\$1.3 million
2002	\$1.2 million
2003*	\$1.1 million
2004*	\$1.0 million

\*Values for fiscal 2003 and 2004 are estimates.

The operating budget for the Used Oil Recycling Program for fiscal 2002 was \$0.9 million. This funding is generated from the fee on the first sale of automotive oil.

Available funding for the Used Oil Recycling Program is expected to continue its downward trend. This decline is due to both a decrease in the fee on the first sale of automotive oil and an increase in the number of used oil collection centers that are eligible for an exemption on this fee.

The automotive oil fee of 1 cent per quart (or 4 cents per gallon) is currently assessed on the first sale of automotive oil to a purchaser who is not an automotive oil manufacturer or distributor.

The Used Oil Recycling Fund may be used for these purposes:

- # registration of used oil collection centers and used oil handlers;
- # processing of reports for used oil collection centers and used oil handlers; and
- # administrative costs of implementing the Used Oil Recycling Program.

## ***Registrations***

Based on current self-reported information, the following is a breakdown of used oil registration information.

### **Used Oil Collection Centers**

A total of 2,266 used oil collection centers have registered with the program. Of these centers, 98 are eligible for exemption of the automotive oil fee, and 1,833 are exclusively do-it-yourself (DIY) used oil collection centers.

These registered centers have reported collecting a total of 6,612,958.40 gallons of used oil, broken down as follows:

<b><i>Source of Oil</i></b>	<b><i>Volume Collected (gallons)</i></b>
DIY centers	3,656,043.10
Facility-generated	994,731.30
Other	1,962,184.00

### **Used Oil Handlers**

The TCEQ collects data from over 500 registered handlers of used oil each year. These handlers include:

- # 254 registered used oil transporters
- # 130 registered used oil transfer facilities
- # 58 registered used oil processors
- # 118 registered used oil fuel marketers

# 7 facilities permitted to burn used oil

In fiscal 2000 and 2001, registered processors reported handling a total of 70,166,459 gallons of used oil.

### Used Oil Activity

The total amount of used oil (in millions of gallons) that was:	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Collected at collection centers	5.1	5.7	3.8	4.6	8.0	6.6
*Processed	29.4	74.5	**	115.2	**	70.1
Re-refined	5.1	10.5	(no data)	(no data)	(no data)	(no data)

\* Exceeds amount collected at used oil collection centers because most generators send their used oil directly to used oil processors. A primary function of a collection center is to collect used oil generated from small sources, such as do-it-yourselfers.

\*\* Data for 2000 and 2001 are combined because reporting is now biennial instead of annual.

## Conclusion

The Used Oil Program has had a significant impact on the protection and preservation of natural resources in the state of Texas. Based on reports from registered used oil processors in Texas, the Used Oil Program has resulted in an estimated 317 million gallons of used oil being recycled since the program began collecting data in fiscal 1995.

In addition, an estimated 450 million used oil filters are recycled every year into new steel products, preventing another 4,000,000 gallons of used oil from leaching into the environment.