



Management of Used Oil/Fuel Filters

Used oil filters may exhibit hazardous characteristics for lead, other toxic heavy metals and petroleum-derived compounds. Used oil filters must either be managed as hazardous waste or in accordance with the requirements for drained used oil filters and protect public health and safety and the environment from the potential hazards posed by disposal of used oil filters. Disposal of used oil filters in trashcans and at sanitary landfills is prohibited.

Fuel filters, including gasoline and diesel fuel engine and fuel dispenser filters, usually exhibit hazardous waste characteristics. Used fuel filters may be managed in the same manner as used oil filters per Assembly Bill 2254. AB 2254 allows used fuel filters to be handled and accumulated along with used oil filters, as long as certain requirements are followed.

Used oil/fuel filters must be managed as hazardous wastes unless all of the following requirements are met:

- Drained of all free-flowing oil/fuel. The filters must be drained of free-flowing used oil/fuel. If the filter is equipped with a device (such as a rubber flap located just inside the filter opening) that impedes the drainage of oil/fuel from the filter, that device must be manipulated to allow the oil/fuel to exit the filter freely, or the filter punctured, crushed, opened, drained, or otherwise handled in a manner that will allow the oil/fuel to exit the filter.
- Properly contained, labeled and stored. The drained filters must be contained in rainproof, non-leaking containers with tightly sealed lids and designed to prevent ignition. The container must be labeled "Drained Used Oil/Fuel Filters" and the initial date of accumulation or receipt marked on each container. The initial date of accumulation is the date when the first filter is placed in the container or the date when a full or partially full container of filters is received at a second location.
- Transported to an allowed destination for purpose of metal reclamation. Filters must be transported to a smelter or scrap metal processor for recycling, or to a municipal solid waste incinerator for energy recovery if the residual casings are subsequently transferred to a smelter or scrap metal processor for recycling. A storage or consolidation facility that subsequently transfers filters to a smelter, scrap metal processor or municipal solid waste incinerator is also acceptable. Filters may also be transported to an authorized hazardous waste facility.
- Transported under a bill of lading with a copy kept by the generator for three years. A bill of lading must accompany each shipment. Bills of lading must include:
 - The generator's name, address and telephone number.
 - The transporter's name, address and telephone number.
 - The receiving facility's name, address and telephone number.
 - The quantity and size of each used oil/filter container shipped.
 - The date of transfer.
- Stored without exceeding allowed time limits. Filters in amounts less than one ton may be stored for a period of up to one year. Storage of one ton or more is limited to 180 days.
- Used oil removed from the filters must be managed in accordance will all applicable requirements of

Article 13, Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.5, Division 20 and 22 California code of Regulations Section 66279.

- Used fuel removed from the filters must be managed as hazardous waste.

Sample of a drained used oil filter label

**DRAINED
USED OIL/FUEL
FILTERS**

Accumulation Start Date _____

Note: This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and may not encompass all the laws and regulations to this topic. More details may be found at Cal/EPA Department of Toxic Substance Control: www.dtsc.ca.gov. If further information is needed, call the County of Los Angeles CUPA at (323) 890-4045, or your local district office.

References

- [Title 22 CCR66266.130, HSC 25250.22, CA. HSC Chapter 6.5, Division 20 & 22CCR Section 66279](#)
- [Los Angeles Code of Ordinances, Title 32, 5003.9.8](#)