

# Releases and Spills

If there is a release of used oil in an **unknown amount** or that creates a **significant sheen on top of state waters** or creates an **emulsion or sludge under state waters...**



...you must **immediately call**  
GA EPD Emergency  
Operations Center  
**800-241-4113**

*If a non-emergency release or spill of used oil occurs at your location:*

1.  *the release.*
2. **CONTAIN** *the release.*
3. **CLEAN-UP** *the release.*



# Questions? Please contact us.

Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
District Offices



### District Phone Contacts:

Mountain: 404-362-2671      East Central: 706-667-4343  
Northeast: 706-369-6376      Southwest: 229-430-4144  
West Central: 478-751-6612      Coastal: 912-264-7284

GA EPD Emergency Operations Center  
**800-241-4113**

### Additional Used Oil Resources:

[www.epa.gov/hw/managing-used-oil-answers-frequent-questions-businesses](http://www.epa.gov/hw/managing-used-oil-answers-frequent-questions-businesses)

[www.epa.gov/hw/reference-table-question-what-used-oil](http://www.epa.gov/hw/reference-table-question-what-used-oil)

[www.epa.gov/recycle/managing-reusing-and-recycling-used-oil](http://www.epa.gov/recycle/managing-reusing-and-recycling-used-oil)



**GEORGIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

# How to Manage Your



*A Quick Reference Guide for your business to achieve compliance with Georgia's Used Oil Regulations*

# Why do I have to manage my used oil?

Used oil is regulated by federal and state environmental laws in order to protect human health and the environment. If you choose to manage your used oil as described as follows (which prepares your used oil to be **recycled**), then you will be taking advantage of the less strict regulations for used oil management. If you choose not to manage your used oil as described, then your used oil would be considered **waste oil\*** and you may have to handle it as hazardous waste. Used oil and hazardous waste laws and regulations can be found at <https://epd.georgia.gov/existing-rules-and-corresponding-laws>

If you are changing the oil in your personal vehicle or otherwise managing used oil generated from your personal use, then you are a **household “do-it-yourselfer”** and are NOT required to manage your used oil as described here – but we recommend it as a best practice!

## What is used oil?

Used Oil is any petroleum-based or synthetic oil that has been used, including: used engine oil, used transmission fluid, used refrigeration and compressor oils and used electrical insulating oils. Used oil is NOT antifreeze, kerosene, vegetable or animal oil, or petroleum-based solvents.

### Used engine oil



### Antifreeze



### Used transmission oil



### Used vegetable oil

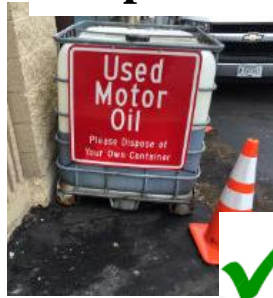


## How do I manage used oil?

Used oil in any amount can be stored on site for any length of time. However, the used oil must:

- Be kept in a container labeled “Used Oil” (NOT “waste oil”\*)
- Be in a container that is in good condition with no leaks
- Be in a closed container if it is kept outside

### Proper Used Oil Storage



### Improper Used Oil Storage



## How do I get rid of used oil?

You should make arrangements with a used oil processor to pick up your used oil via a used oil transporter. Per state and federal law, used oil transporters and processors must have an **EPA ID#**.

It is your responsibility as a used oil generator to make sure you contract with a transporter with an **EPA ID#** to pick up your used oil for recycling.



## How do I manage used oil filters?



Non-terne used oil filters should be **hot drained** into a properly labeled container *for at least 12 hours*. Once the oil filter is properly drained, the filter can be disposed of as a solid waste along with the other regular trash in your solid waste dumpster. If you choose not to hot drain the filters, then the filters should be managed as used oil.



Draining oil filters

Used oil drained from filters



Properly drained oil filters

