



August 2021

CLEAN DEALERSHIP

AWARE Newsletter

Management of Used Gasoline Tanks

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has specific requirements for managing empty containers that previously held a hazardous material and used automobile fuel tanks fall under this category. It is important to keep in mind that State and local requirements may be different than those of the EPA. The purpose of this document is to provide general guidance on the management and proper recycling or disposal of used fuel tanks. As always, it is your responsibility to confirm and comply with the specific Environmental, HazMat and Safety regulatory requirements that may be applicable to operations performed in your locale. You may want to consult with an Environmental, HazMat and Safety (EHS) professional for more detailed guidance.

Empty used (contaminated) containers, including empty fuel tanks, may under certain conditions be managed as a fully regulated hazardous waste, State regulated hazardous/industrial waste or be recycled.

Recycling used fuel tanks is recommended when feasible but may not always be an option. If recycling is not an option, the fuel tank will need to be managed as a hazardous or industrial waste. It is recommended that a reputable and experienced waste management company is utilized to manage the used fuel tanks as a hazardous or industrial waste or to clean them sufficiently to allow them to be recycled (cleaning tanks may result in additional waste to manage). Many waste management companies can provide field service crews with appropriate experience, equipment and supplies to come to your site and assist with properly managing used fuel tanks per applicable environmental, hazmat and safety regulations.

Note: A reputable and experienced waste management company may also be utilized to manage as a hazardous or industrial waste other used parts that may contain fuel residue, such as fuel pumps, fuel injectors, and charcoal canisters.

The following Waste Management Best Practices and Additional Resources sections are provided for consideration.

Waste Management Best Practices

- If you do not have in-house expertise, hire a reputable Waste Management company or Environmental, HazMat and Safety consultant to assist you with managing your waste
- Understand the nature of the wastes generated at your site and how they are generated
- Understand the regulations that apply to the proper management of the waste generated by your site
- To the extent you can, search out waste management and recycling companies that:
 - ◊ Are permitted by the EPA or State environmental agency to accept and manage the waste to be shipped to them
 - ◊ Are compliant regarding all applicable Environmental, HazMat and Safety regulations
 - ◊ Are not on a Federal or State list of contaminated sites requiring clean-up
 - ◊ Use approved waste management/recycling processes and technologies
 - ◊ Do not pose a risk of short-term or long-term liabilities to your facility
 - ◊ Have appropriate insurance coverage for the type of operations that they perform
 - ◊ Are good corporate citizens that make appropriate decisions and take actions to protect the environment and the neighborhoods where they operate
- Ensure all waste generated by your site is managed timely and in compliance with EPA, State and local environmental, OSHA and DOT regulations (non-compliant accumulation of waste can result in serious EHS issues)
- Keep waste related records on file as required per all applicable Environmental, HazMat and Safety regulations
- Monitor waste generation, accumulation and storage on



a weekly basis and take immediate actions as needed to correct any abnormal conditions identified

- Maintain your facility in a clean, organized and compliant condition at all times

Additional Resources:

Federal Hazardous Waste Regulations
40 CFR 260 – 265 https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6a352b69211a10816c61fe944353fc29&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfrv28_02.tpl#0
40 CFR 266 – 290 https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6a352b69211a10816c61fe944353fc29&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfrv29_02.tpl#0
Regulatory Guidance by Waste Topic
https://www.epa.gov/hw https://www.epa.gov/regulatory-information-topic/regulatory-information-topic-waste
State Waste Regulations
Hazardous Waste Links – EPA: State Specific Waste Information https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/links-hazardous-waste-programs-and-us-state-environmental-agencies https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/where-hazardous-waste-generator-improvements-rule-effect
Universal Waste Link – EPA: State Specific Universal Waste Regulations https://archive.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/web/html/statespf-2.html
Access to Information on Permitted Waste Management Facilities
Active Waste Management Facilities RCRAInfo Search Results Envirofacts US EPA
Environmental Compliance History Information https://echo.epa.gov/
Federal Agency Websites
Environmental Protection Agency https://www.epa.gov/
Department of Transportation/PHMSA https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/
Occupational Safety and Health Administration https://www.osha.gov/
e-CFR – Code of Federal Regulations https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse

