

About the WWSA

The Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WWSA) provides reliable, high-quality, and cost-effective wastewater treatment services for more than 170,000 Luzerne County residents.

Founded in 1962, the WWSA is also leading a regional approach to stormwater management—a collaborative measure to meet federal mandates aimed at protecting and enhancing the water quality of our local and regional water resources.

Recognized for our commitment to environmental initiatives, collaboration and community service, the WWSA is a proud recipient of the 2018 Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence and the 2018 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. To learn more about us, visit our website at www.wwsa.org.



What to do with that Motor Oil



Questions or Comments? Contact:

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*You 'otter know...
we all live downstream.*

Did You Know...?

- ◆ Used motor oil is insoluble, persistent, and can contain toxic chemicals and heavy metals.
- ◆ It's also slow to degrade, sticks to everything from beach sand to bird feathers, and is a major source of oil contamination in waterways.
- ◆ It can lead to pollution of drinking water sources.
- ◆ Motor oil or antifreeze can damage or kill underwater plants and animals.
- ◆ It's illegal in some municipalities to dump oil down the drain because it's so harmful to environmental wildlife and can contaminate an area's soil and water table. In some cases, the imposed fines are steep.

Here's What You Can Do to Help

- ◆ Check your car, boat, motorcycle, recreational vehicle, lawnmower and other machinery or equipment for leaks and spills. The vast majority of leaks are due to degraded engine gaskets, oil pan leaks, oil seals or bad connections. Make repairs as soon as possible.
- ◆ Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of the absorbent material.
- ◆ Never pour used motor oil or antifreeze down a storm drain, onto the soil, or into a waterway.
- ◆ Put used oil or antifreeze in a sturdy container and take it to a local service station or other approved center.



Benefits of Reusing and Recycling Used Oil

Recycling and reusing used motor oil is preferable to disposal and can provide great environmental benefits. Recycled used motor oil can be re-refined into new oil, processed into fuel oils, and used as raw materials for the petroleum industry.

Used oils such as engine lubrication oil, hydraulic fluids, and gear oils used in cars, bikes, or lawnmowers can pollute the environment if they are not recycled or disposed of properly. Used oil must be managed properly by local waste management authorities or automotive repair shops to prevent contaminating the environment. Its filters pose similar waste concerns. If properly drained, they can be safely recycled or disposed.

Some reasons to reuse and recycle used oil include:

- ◆ Recycling used oil keeps it from polluting soil and water.
- ◆ Motor oil does not wear out—it just gets dirty—so recycling it saves a valuable resource.
- ◆ Less energy is required to produce a gallon of re-refined base stock than a base stock from crude oil.
- ◆ One gallon of used motor oil provides the same 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil as 42 gallons of crude oil.