



- Q.** I burn my used oil in a **waste oil burner** at my shop. I do not have enough used oil to burn throughout the winter so I have a couple of small shops bring me their used oil. Is this legal?
- A.** No. Burning used oil other than your own or from do-it-yourself oil changers that bring it to your shop is illegal unless you have permit from DEEP to operate a [CGS Section 22a-454](#) waste facility.
- Q.** Sometimes I have **old gasoline** left over after repairing a vehicle's gas tank. I usually reuse it for my own vehicle or equipment but what if it's unusable by me?
- A.** Waste gasoline is considered a hazardous waste unless it is reused for the purpose it was intended for (as a fuel). If it is unusable for your vehicles or equipment, it can be picked up and recycled by a firm that can blend your unusable gasoline into a fuel. Contact DEEP at 888-424-4193 for a list of permitted companies.
- Q.** I was told that **fluorescent lamps** contain mercury. Does this mean that I can't throw them in the trash?
- A.** Yes. Fluorescent lights and other mercury-containing lamps (sodium vapor, metal halide and high intensity discharge lamps, including the blue-tinted HID headlamps) are considered Universal Waste and are subject to special requirements. However, although they can't be thrown in the trash, these lamps can be recycled. (See the EPP fact sheet for fluorescent lamp recyclers.) For more information, call DEEP at 888-424-4193 and ask for a copy of the Universal Waste Rule fact sheet or [download](#) it from DEEP website.
- Q.** Can I throw **oil filters** that I have hot drained for at least 24 hours into the trash?
- A.** Yes. But the most environmentally preferred method is to recycle these filters. Check out purchasing a crusher that collects the excess oil left in the filter. You will be able to save money by fitting more filters in a drum for pick-up.
- Q.** I have a bunch of **aerosol cans** with products that I can't use anymore. What should I do with them?
- A.** Aerosol cans that have not been emptied may be a hazardous waste due to the leftover propellant or the product inside the can. A hazardous waste determination must be made before disposal. Try to return defective cans to the manufacturer and look into replacing the use of aerosols with refillable spray canisters.

- Q.** Can I use a **MSDS** (Material Data Safety Sheet) to make a hazardous waste determination?
- A.** MSDSs can be helpful in beginning a hazardous waste determination. They should not be relied on solely since the manufacturer is not required to list constituents that are present in amounts of less than 1 percent (10,000 ppm). For example, if your waste contains as little as 0.7 ppm of tetrachloroethylene (perc), it is considered a hazardous waste.
- Q.** Does the asphalt under my outdoor used oil tank meet the definition of a “**sufficiently impervious**” surface?
- A.** No. If used oil did leak out of the tank, it could penetrate the asphalt and reach the underlying soil below. Epoxy-coated concrete or a metal or plastic containment pan would meet the sufficiently impervious requirement. As an alternative, use a double-walled tank.
- Q.** Is it a good idea to seal my **floor drains**?
- A.** No, sealing floor drains is not recommended. Floor drains are designed to capture water, cleaners, oil, dirt or other materials from your shop that otherwise may end up outside the building as an illegal discharge. However, your floor drains need to be hooked up to an oil/water separator and discharged to the sanitary sewer or to a holding tank (see the Shop Wastewater Fact Sheet for a summary of the regulatory requirements).
- Q.** This guy has offered to take my **batteries, scrap metal** and other items from my repair shop at no charge. Should I accept his offer?
- A.** This person must have a permit from DEEP for hauling certain items like batteries. Facilities that take in batteries or solid wastes must also be permitted. If this person is mismanages the items and ends up contaminating a site, you could held responsible for clean-up costs. A better practice is to have a reputable company pick up your items. Contact DEEP at 888-424-4193 for a list of permitted companies.



Did You Know?

There are more than 4,000 licensed vehicle service facilities in CT?