

Where to Recycle

❖ **Curbside Recycling Collection:** Collects up to one gallon of motor oil in well-marked, well-sealed clear plastic bottles with screw tops, one gallon or smaller. Put tape over top of container. No antifreeze, no oil filters, do not store in bleach bottles. *Info:* 360-676-5723 (*Point Roberts does not offer this service.*)

❖ **Disposal of Toxics Antifreeze/Oil Recycling**

Stations: These sites accept up to 5 gallons of motor oil or antifreeze, as well as drained oil filters. Airport Dr. facility accepts larger quantities. Keep oil and antifreeze separate. *Info:* 360-380-4640

Cedarville, Cedarville Rd., 1/4-mile off Mt. Baker Hwy. *Hours:* 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. *Info:* 360-734-3490

Lynden, 250 Birch Bay-Lynden Road. *Hours:* 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. One gallon see-through containers required; up to 5 containers accepted. *Info:* 360-354-3400

Birch Bay, 4297 Birch Bay-Lynden Rd. *Hours:* 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. *Info:* 360-398-2025

Disposal of Toxics Facility, 3505 Airport Drive. *Hours:* 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday and the first Saturday of each month. Closed Holidays. *Info:* 360-380-4640

❖ **Schuck's Automotive,** 1929 King St.; 4056 Meridian; 4375 Guide Meridian, Bellingham; and 1970 Kok Rd., Lynden. Accepts up to 3 gal. motor oil. No antifreeze, no oil filters. *Info:* 360-676-8380

❖ **Jiffy Lube,** 1430 Cornwall; 4070 Meridian; 2436 E. Bakerview, Bellingham. Each accepts up to 5 gal. motor oil and drained oil filters. No antifreeze. *Info:* 360-734-9673

❖ **Jim's Automotive Experts,** 102 E. Main, Everson. Accepts up to 5 gal. motor oil and drained oil filters. Antifreeze is accepted for a small fee. *Info:* 360-966-4440

Note: Transport oil and antifreeze in separate unbreakable containers with screw tops. Do not mix with water, debris, brake fluid, solvents or other contaminants.

For More Information

Safer Alternatives to Hazardous Chemicals
Recycling Hotline 360-676-5723

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
Disposal of Toxics Program 360-380-4640



The information in this brochure is intended for do-it-yourselfers, not for service stations and other businesses.

For information pertaining to small businesses, call:

Reduction Assistance –
Whatcom Co. Health Dept. 360-676-6724

Disposal Information –
Disposal of Toxics Program 360-380-4640

Whatcom County Public Works Solid Waste Division

322 N. Commercial, Suite #220
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-676-7695
Recycling Hotline: 360-676-5723
www.whatcomcounty.us/publicworks/solidwaste



Whatcom County Public
Works Solid Waste Division

Automotive Waste

and the Do-it-Yourselfer



How to reduce, recycle and dispose of automotive wastes properly and avoid toxic releases



Questions? Call the Recycling Hotline
360-676-5723

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What's the Problem?

- ❖ Dumping used motor oil on the ground, over roads, or into storm drains and other water systems is illegal. Heavy metals and other toxins in used oil contaminate soil and pollute water sources, posing a health hazard to wildlife and humans. Used motor oil is the single largest source of oil pollution.
- ❖ Vehicle batteries contain corrosive materials and heavy metals that can contaminate soil and ground or surface water if disposed of improperly.
- ❖ Dumping antifreeze on the ground will contaminate soil and surface water sources. Also, pets and children are attracted by its sweet taste, which can lead to poisoning.
- ❖ Nearly all of a car's wastes are toxic to varying degrees, and may present environmental and human health hazards if disposed of improperly. Toxic materials may cause injury or death if ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the skin. None of these materials should end up in a sewer, septic system, storm drain, back yard or empty lot.
- ❖ It is illegal to discharge automotive waste directly to surface water, storm drains, or onto the ground, where rainfall can carry it into the ground water or nearby surface water. Penalties of up to \$30,000 per day may be imposed for such dumping. Property found to be contaminated is difficult to sell without doing expensive cleanup. Owners of such property may also find it difficult to obtain loans against their property once banks are aware of the problem.



Sources:
Washington State Recycling Association, www.wsra.net
State of California, www.ciwm.ca.gov

Some Solutions

Buy Re-refined Motor Oil

Re-refined motor oil is the same quality as virgin oil. The re-refining process cleans up the used oil and replaces the additives that were used up, generating 80 gallons of new oil for every 100 of used. Re-refined motor oil reduces our dependence on imported oil, and helps reduce our trade deficit and provide jobs.

Master Lube offers re-refined oil as an option in their services (subject to availability)

Master Lube
1111 E. Maple, 8-5:30 Mon-Fri; 8-4:30 Sat, 733-4750

Watershed-Friendly Car Washes

Cars that are washed in driveways and parking lots can pollute our streams, rivers and bays. Dirty runoff, unlike the water that enters the sewer, flows straight into our waterways and does not undergo treatment.

Here are some ways you can reduce the impact of washing your car:

- If you wash your car at home, do it on a flat grass or gravel area that will absorb the wash water before it can run into the storm drain. Also, lessen your impact by using a low- or no-phosphate soap.
- Take your car to a commercial car wash, where they are required to deal properly with wastewater.
- Look for Watershed-Friendly Car Wash signs at local car wash fundraisers to ensure that the groups are diverting the soapy water from the storm system into the sewer system.

Biodiesel

Biodiesel is a fuel produced from a variety of renewable resources, including waste vegetable oils, cooking oil, soybean oil and animal fats that can be used in virtually any diesel engine. For more information on biodiesel, visit <http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/fuels/biodiesel.html>

Biodiesel is available at:

- **Deming Quick Stop**- (360)592-5633, 4985 Mount Baker Hwy
- **Bellingham Shell**- (360)734-9588, 4240 Meridian St
- **Yorky's Market on Bennett**- (360)733-6682, 3910 Bennett Dr
- **Sammy's Place**- (360)671-9498, 1715 State St
- **Whatcom Falls Mini Mart**- (360)671-7200, 1480 Electric Ave
- **Pt. Roberts Petroleum/Can-Am**- (360)945-2639, 365 Tyee Dr

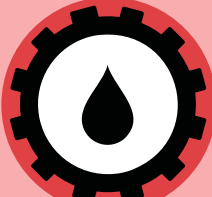
General Tips

- ❖ Buy only what you need, and substitute less toxic or non-toxic materials when feasible.
- ❖ Follow safety precautions and other instructions on the product label.
- ❖ Keep all hazardous products out of the reach of children and pets.
- ❖ Never pour vehicle waste into storm drains, sewers, septic systems or onto the ground.
- ❖ Know where you will store and dispose of materials before beginning a do-it-yourself project. Call the Recycling Hotline at 360-676-5723 for more information.
- ❖ Keep all fluids separate and labeled to make proper recycling and disposal easier.
- ❖ All automotive wastes can be reduced by using alternative transportation such as walking, bicycling, carpooling, vanpooling and taking the bus.



Questions? Call the Recycling Hotline
360-676-5723

Proper Use, Storage and Disposal of Hazardous Automotive Waste

|  | Hazard | Storage | How to Avoid Spills and Releases | How to Clean Up Spills | Recycling or Disposal — call the Disposal of Toxics Program 360-380-4640 | Safer Alternatives or Reduction Methods |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| Used Motor Oil | Oil picks up heavy metals from the engine. Petroleum products are toxic to people, wildlife, and plants. | Store in a sealed metal or plastic container with a tight fitting lid. Label container. | Put a large drip pan under the crankcase oil opening. Check for oil leaks regularly and repair them. | Clean up immediately with cat litter or absorbent pads. Cleanup materials may be taken to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Recycle through curbside programs, or at sites listed on the other side. Drain oil filter overnight into drip pan to remove oil residue. It is illegal to use oil as a dust suppressant or weed killer. | Keeping your car tuned reduces oil use, and using re-refined oil saves energy and resources. |
| Lead-Acid Batteries | Lead is a toxic heavy metal. Battery acid is corrosive. | Store upright in a sturdy, leak-proof, plastic container. | Follow proper storage instructions. | Neutralize small acid spills (under 2 gallons) using powdered limestone, calcium carbonate, cement, or baking soda. | Recyclable. Set out with the curbside recycling or exchange your old battery when purchasing a replacement. Do not throw away. Accepted at Disposal of Toxics. | Purchasing longer-life batteries will reduce the need for replacement and disposal. |
| Antifreeze | Contains ethylene glycol, which is toxic. Animals and children are attracted by its sweet taste. | Store in original plastic containers. | Use large enough pan when flushing radiator. Repair radiator leaks. | Small spills may be wiped up and discarded. Cleanup materials may be taken to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Recycle through the Disposal of Toxics Program. Do not pour on ground or flush in a septic tank system. Use professional recycling services. | Propylene glycol based antifreeze is less toxic. Check with your recycler to see if it can be recycled with ethylene glycol antifreeze. |
| Gasoline | Flammable and toxic. Contains benzene, a cancer-causing chemical that can be inhaled or absorbed through the skin. | Use up gasoline or, if you do store gasoline, use a gas stabilizer to prevent waste. Store in approved containers away from living area, ignition sources and direct sunlight. | Don't overfill your tank. | Clean up spills immediately with cat litter or absorbent pads. Cleanup materials may be taken to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Use up clean gas. Take contaminated gas to Disposal of Toxics. Do not use as a solvent, cleaner, paint thinner, or weed killer. | Carpool, bus, walk, and bicycle. Combine trips to minimize vehicle use. Properly inflated tires reduce gasoline consumption. Consider alternative fuels. |
| Transmission Fluid | Transmission fluid contains petroleum distillates and is ignitable. | Store separately in original containers. | Follow proper filling and draining techniques. | Clean up spills immediately with cat litter or absorbent pads. Cleanup materials may be taken to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Recycle used automotive transmission fluid (ATF) at Disposal of Toxics. Place in an unbreakable, sealed container labeled "Used ATF." | Reduce use by repairing leaks. |
| Solvents and Brake Fluid | Products containing chlorinated solvents are very hazardous. Brake fluid is combustible. | Store in original containers in a cool, dry location. | Follow instructions for proper use to avoid spills. | Absorb spills with absorbent pads and take to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Use up according to instructions or share with someone who will. Keep separate from used oil. Take used fluids to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Non-toxic and non-flammable alternatives to degreasers and solvents are available. Use water based substitutes whenever possible. |
| Cleaners and Polishers | Most contain toxic ingredients. Some contain phosphates, which promote the growth of algae in lakes and rivers. | Store in original containers. | Use appropriate amounts according to instructions on the container. | Absorb spills with absorbent pads and take to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | Use up according to instructions or give it to someone who will. Take unusable products to the Disposal of Toxics facility. | A variety of non-toxic cleaners are available. Use the least toxic product that will accomplish the job. |
| CFCs or Freon (Air Conditioner) | These gases are harmful to the Earth's protective ozone layer. | N/A | Service your air conditioner regularly. Repair leaks. | N/A | Freon is recyclable. Get your car serviced at a service station that collects and recycles Freon. | Buy a car that uses R134A in the air conditioner, or buy a car without an air conditioner and open your windows. |
| Tires | Tire piles attract rodents, mosquitoes and other pests, and are a fire hazard. Toxics are released into the air and water when tires burn. | Store outside in an area protected from fire or rain. Local regulations may limit the number you can store. | Avoid storing a quantity that could become a fire hazard. Tire fires generate toxic smoke and runoff. | N/A | Some worn tires can be retreaded. To ensure a tire will be retreaded, try not to wear it down beyond the wear bars before replacement. | Keep tires properly inflated. Buy long lasting and, when possible, retread tires. |