

USED OIL FILTER GENERATOR REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that all filters be recycled. Talk to the transporter or recycling company about how filters should be prepared and packaged for shipment. Many [used oil recyclers](#) also accept filters. See the [Oil Filters Manufacturing Council](#) information on how to find recycling services and filter processing equipment vendors or call 800-933-4583. Costs depend on scrap metal and oil markets and distance to recycling companies.



If filters are not recycled, the facility will need to determine if the used oil filters are hazardous waste. Usually the manufacturer, parts store, or other sources have information if the filters are terne or non-terne plated. Keep characterization documentation for at least 3 years. Filters need to have as much used oil removed as possible before disposal in a licensed landfill.

Non-terne plated filters

Non-terne plated filters are commonly used. They are exempt from the hazardous waste regulations [R 299.9204(2)(n)] if they are:

- ✓ Not mixed with listed hazardous wastes; **and**
- ✓ Gravity hot-drained to remove the oil. That means draining the filter above 60 degrees Fahrenheit (preferably near engine operating temperature for a minimum of 12 hours to remove the oil). Include the collected oil from the filters with your other used oil. A facility can make their own draining station or purchase commercial units.

Handle the filters by any of the following methods:

- ◆ Puncturing the filter anti-drain back valve or the filter dome end and hot-draining;
- ◆ Hot-draining and crushing the filter;
- ◆ Dismantling and hot-draining the filter — it will be necessary to determine if the filter material is hazardous waste if it is removed from scrap metal casings; or
- ◆ Using any other equivalent hot-draining method.
- ◆ A permit is not needed if using a filter crushing device to reduce the space used filters take in your garbage dumpster. Pour any collected oils from the crushing in your other used oil container.

It is not necessary to have the container closed during the draining stage. Once the filters are done being drained, then the oil container must be closed, labeled "Used Oil," and meet other used oil requirements, or transfer the drained oil into another used oil container that meets those requirements.

Terne plated filters

Although not normally used in vehicles, terne plated filters may be used in heavy equipment. Used terne plated filters are coated with an alloy of lead and tin which makes them a D008 hazardous waste. If terne plated filters are recycled as scrap metal, they are exempt from most of the hazardous waste regulations [R 299.9206(3)(b)]. They must be managed to protect the environment and human health. If not recycled, the disposal options depend on the facility's hazardous waste generator status. Only a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (a company that generates less than 220 pounds of all hazardous waste) may put hazardous waste filters in the trash if the landfill authority accepts them.



Good drain station example:

- Posted instructions
- Guard pole to protect station from forklifts
- Labeled drum



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor • Steven E. Chester, Director
www.michigan.gov/deg

Environmental Assistance Center 800-662-9278

WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION
PO BOX 30241
LANSING MI 48909-7741

517-335-2690