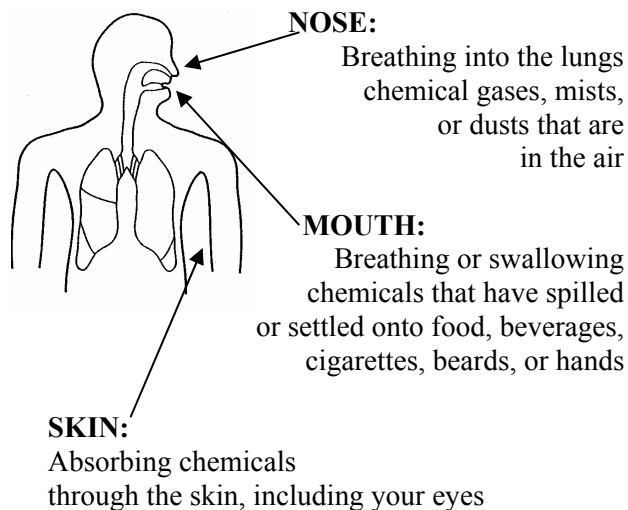


How do chemicals get into my body?

Improper use and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes can contaminate our air, water and soil and harm our health. In order to cause health problems, chemicals must enter the body. There are three "routes of entry" or ways a chemical can get into the body:



When working with or around chemicals be sure and wear protective gear (goggles, masks, gloves, etc.) in a well ventilated area and wash work clothes separately.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department
600 2nd St. NW, Suite 500
Albuquerque, NM
(505) 924-3650

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
1-800-887-6063

UNM Poison and Drug Information Center:
(505) 272-4261

If chemicals are inhaled or swallowed call:
Poison Emergency: **(505) 272-2222**
Out of Albuquerque Metro Area:
1-800-432-6866

**The South Valley
Clean Environment Campaign**
is a community action initiative formed to build the capacity of South Valley residents and small businesses to address environmental health risks and issues in our neighborhoods.

**Rio Grande Community Development Corp.
in collaboration with
Kalpulli Izkalli and the
SouthWest Organizing Project**

Funded in part by the South Valley Partners for Environmental Justice, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences #1R25ES10494-01A1, Bernalillo County Turning Point Partnership, Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department



"Providing ways to protect our health and environment to benefit our families and our community"

AUTO SHOP WASTE HOW TO REDUCE IT AND WHAT TO DO WITH IT!

(505) 452-8525
e-mail: rgcdc@swcp.com
1608 Isleta SW Albuquerque, NM 87105

HAZARDOUS WASTE

What is Hazardous Waste?

Hazardous Waste is a solid, liquid or gaseous material which no longer is useful and is being discarded. There are four characteristic waste categories which may apply to your shop wastes.

Flammable Wastes: easily catches fire and tends to burn rapidly such as paint thinners and cleaning solvents.

Corrosive Wastes: a chemical or its vapors that can cause a material or living tissue to be destroyed such as battery acid, floor cleaners, caustic paint strippers and aluminum cleaners.

Reactive Waste: products containing chemicals that could have hazardous reactions such as gaseous vapors or explosions if combined with air, water, or other substances (usually not produced in auto service shops.)

Toxic Characteristic Waste: Concentrated chemicals that leach into groundwater at landfills, such as benzene, lead batteries and paint, and mercury batteries.

Read labels carefully to determine level of hazard and protection measures needed.

What can I do to minimize hazardous waste?

1. Switch to citrus-based (such as lemon or orange) cleaning solvents.
2. Keep hazardous and non-hazardous waste separate to minimize disposal costs.
3. Use dry materials such as saw dust, kitty litter or a commercial product for cleaning spills and floors to eliminate hazardous waste water that has to be disposed of properly
4. Avoid solvent-based cleaners.
5. Recycle and reuse antifreeze.

6. Explore recycle and reuse body shop solvents. Use environmentally friendly floor soap.
7. Purchase in bulk. Antifreeze and oil purchased in bulk are less expensive, and have less packaging to be disposed.
8. Purchase reusable absorbents.
9. Use a laundry service for rags and uniforms.
10. Manage inventory to reduce stock that becomes outdated with chemicals that will need to be properly disposed.

USED OIL

How to handle used oil

Used oil is a valuable resource, but it can also pollute our groundwater and soils creating very costly cleanup liabilities.

If your business deals with used oil, you should know that:

- ☛ The US Environmental Protection Agency supports programs to increase proper recycling of used oil.
- ☛ Useful, and sometimes profitable, public service can be provided by accepting used oil for recycling from "do-it-yourselfers" who change their own oil.

Remember:

Maintain your collection tanks regularly. Stay in compliance with local fire and safety regulations. Avoid leaks and spills.

Never mix used oil with any other material. Keep gasoline, solvents, degreasers, paints, antifreeze separate to prevent used oil from becoming a hazardous waste and increasing collection costs.

What can I do with used oil?

1. Do not dump or dispose of used oil in the trash, in sewers, or on the ground.
2. Check local hauler's qualifications to make sure the oil is taken to a reputable recycling operation.
3. If you accept used oil from customers, make sure all your employees are informed. Encourage them to talk to the customer to be sure the oil has not been mixed with any other substances.
4. Make sure your tank has a lockable cap to prevent dumping of materials into the tank when it is not supervised.
5. Provide soak-up material (like saw dust, kitty litter, or a commercial product) for minor spills. It keeps the area clean and helps prevent personal injury.
6. Make sure your collection and storage setup is leak-proof and spill-proof with lids or covers to prevent water from entering the tank or container.
7. Burn used oil in an approved waste oil heater or recycle it.

**For proper disposal contact:
Hazardous Waste Collection Center
6133 Edith NE, ABQ, N.M.
For business hours call: (505) 345-1650**