

# NEWS

you can use

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ♦ MC-113 ♦ PO Box 13087 ♦ Austin TX 78711-3087

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## Call 1-800-CLEANUP to Find Your Nearest Used Oil Collector

If you change your own motor oil, you can protect our environment by recycling and conserving your used oil. A nearby collection center, such as a service station, lube center, or automotive store, will take your used oil for recycling. To find your nearest used oil collection center, call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org). There are more than 2,100 used oil collection centers across Texas.

According to reports filed from Nov. 11, 2004, through Nov. 1, 2005 with the TCEQ's Used Oil Recycling Program, registered centers collected more than 10 million gallons of used oil.

### Why recycle oil?

- Oil does not wear out, it just gets dirty. Through re-refining or processing, used oil can be used over and over without losing its lubricating ability.
- Re-refining used oil takes 70 percent less energy than refining crude oil.
- Just one quart of oil can contaminate approximately 250,000 gallons of water.

In addition, Texas law prohibits dumping used oil or oil filters on land or into sewers, waterways, or landfills. Using oil as a dust suppressant is also illegal. In Texas, transmission fluids, brake fluids, power steering fluids, and greases are considered used oil.

For more information on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Used Oil Recycling Program, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/registration/used\\_oil/recycling.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/registration/used_oil/recycling.html).

For tips on how to change your oil and oil filters, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Web site at [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/recycle/recy-oil.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/recycle/recy-oil.pdf).



## Online Green Purchasing Tool Needs Testers

Do you use your purchasing power to buy products that are better for the environment? Texas businesses have the

power to drive environmental change by buying products that reduce their company's impact on the environment. The TCEQ has a new tool in testing phase intended to help businesses get the biggest environmental bang for their buck.

CLEAN TEXAS, CLEANER WORLD has teamed up with a Harvard University professor to create an Internet tool that will prioritize and measure

the environmental impacts of the products you purchase. The tool uses diverse product databases to measure the impacts that the purchases have on the environment and prioritize the ones that have the greatest impact. With this knowledge, you can begin to make smarter decisions about the products that you purchase every day.

CLEAN TEXAS, CLEANER WORLD is calling for people to test this purchasing tool. The tool will be in the public domain, downloadable, and FREE to users worldwide. If you are interested in helping test this tool to hone its effectiveness, contact Mike Lindner at 512/239-3045 or e-mail [mlindner@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:mlindner@tceq.state.tx.us).



## TCEQ Offers Various Seminar Training

### Underground Storage Tank Management and Compliance Assistance Seminar

Are you a contractor or consultant engaged in installation, repair, removal, or modification of underground storage tank systems? Are you an owner or operator of underground storage tank systems, including service station owners/operators, municipalities, county governments, state and federal agencies, and airports and marinas? Then you should attend the UST Management and Compliance Assistance Seminar to be held at the Renaissance Austin Hotel on December 15, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To view the brochure or to register online, go to [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/admin/events/12-05ust.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/admin/events/12-05ust.pdf).

## Advanced Air Permitting Seminar

The TCEQ Compliance and Enforcement staff will discuss how businesses can achieve compliance in all areas of air quality in a seminar at the Sofitel Houston Hotel on December 14 -15. The half-day workshops and two-day



Advanced Air Permitting Seminar will focus on areas from new source review to Title V, to emissions banking and trading, to dispersion modeling. The seminar promises to provide a wealth of knowledge about those aspects of air permitting and air quality that are important to you. The sessions are designed for engineers, environmental staff or managers of permitted facilities, consultants, or owners of business or industrial facilities operating in Texas. To find out more about this seminar and to register, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/admin/events/12-05airpermitting.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/admin/events/12-05airpermitting.pdf).

## Agricultural Waste Pesticide, Household Hazardous Waste Collection, and Texas Country Cleanups Scheduled

The TCEQ is offering one-day collections for rural Texans to dispose of unwanted or unused pesticides, household hazardous waste, lead acid batteries, and used oil and filters. For a complete listing of items accepted and more information, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/AgWaste/agwaste.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/AgWaste/agwaste.html).

City	Date
Pampa	12/05
Dumas	12/07
Hereford	12/09
Slaton	12/12
Garden City	12/14
Fabens	12/16

## See the Latest TCEQ Updated Publications!

*Pollution Prevention Ideas for You (GI-254)* is a poster listing tips on how individuals can reduce waste and pollution by incorporating new habits into their daily routines. You may find they not only save energy, reduce waste, and preserve our natural resources but they may also save you money!

To view the poster, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-254.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-254.html).

To order a copy e-mail [educate@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:educate@tceq.state.tx.us).



If you think you have seen or experienced an environmental problem, you may wonder what to do, who to call, and what to expect. *Do You Want to Make an Environmental Complaint?* (GI-278) is a brochure that will answer some of these questions. To view the brochure, visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm\\_exec/forms\\_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-278\\_1076300.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/gi/gi-278_1076300.pdf). To order a copy, e-mail [educate@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:educate@tceq.state.tx.us).



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