

2001 Annual Report

MARYLAND
USED MOTOR
OIL RECYCLING
PROGRAM



Submitted by:
Maryland
Environmental
Service

Prepared for:
The Economic and Environmental
Affairs Committee and the
Environmental Matters Committee of
the Maryland General Assembly

Submitted to:
Maryland
Department of the
Environment

January 2002

2001 Annual Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Maryland Environmental Service (MES), administers the Maryland Use Oil Recycling Act through an intergovernmental agency (IGA) agreement on behalf of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). MES is responsible for implementing a statewide program to increase the number of used oil collection facilities, provide public education and outreach programs, and maintain an information center to encourage citizens to recycle used motor oil.

Since 1988, more than 7.3 million gallons of used motor oil have successfully been collected for proper disposal from do-it-yourself automobile enthusiasts.

Program accomplishments include:

- Collection of 805,000 gallons of used motor oil from program sponsored locations;
- The number of program sponsored collection locations remained relatively stable over the year at 164;
- Continued collection of used antifreeze, another recyclable petroleum-based automobile fluid;
- Provided all program participants with a brochure outlining guidelines and responsibilities;
- Provided quarterly reports and program updates to all coordinators;
- Promoted the Program at the Maryland Municipal League Conference and the Maryland Association of Counties Conference.
- Attended the NORA 2001 Annual Recycling Conference and Trade Show;
- Advertised on WNAV 1430 AM Radio.

2001 Annual Report

MARYLAND USED OIL RECYCLING PROGRAM

2001 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2001 Used Oil Recycling Program Annual Report is provided to the Maryland General Assembly as a requirement of Environment Article 5-1001, section (g).

Maryland Environmental Service (MES), an agency of the State of Maryland, is responsible for the administration and implementation of the Maryland Used Oil Recycling Program through an intergovernmental agency agreement (IGA) with the Maryland Department of the Environment. Program management includes the designation of used oil collection facilities, technical assistance to establish collection facilities, public education, operation of an information center and implementation of other non-regulatory provisions of the Maryland Used Oil Recycling Act.

We are pleased to report on the accomplishments and progress of the Program during the past year, effectiveness of provisions of the Law, and plans for 2002.

INTRODUCTION

The Maryland Used Oil Recycling Law was enacted July 1978. Initial program start-up funding was allocated from the energy overcharge financial settlement. This funding enabled MES to create a program to assist the home mechanic or do-it-yourselfer (DIYer) with proper used motor oil disposal, which is nationally unique. MES purchased used oil collection tanks, collection boxes, hardware and signs. County and local governments were solicited to assist in establishing convenient and accessible used oil collection sites for citizens. MES recruiting established a variety of collection sites with most being located at solid waste, public works and road maintenance facilities.

The Program has been successful at recruiting and maintaining donor locations for two main reasons: 1) free collection service of used motor oil; and 2) the state assumes the responsibility for disposing of any contaminated used oil.



2001 Annual Report

Used Motor Oil Collection Program

Market forces have changed the dynamics of automobile service stations. Service stations use to take used motor oil from individuals that changed the oil in their own cars and trucks. Now, local service stations are mini-marts selling milk and bread—not automobile related maintenance or repair services. That's one of the reasons the Used Oil Recycling Program was established. Individual's need a reliable and responsible location to recycle their used motor oil.

Collection of used motor oil from all state-wide locations yielded approximately 805,000 gallons in 2001. Since its inception in 1988, the Program has expanded from 44 collection sites to 164 sites currently in operation and recovered more than 7.3 million gallons of used motor oil.

The State Program provides participating county and municipal governments and certain organizations the following:

- Tanks (275-gallon above ground tanks, including hardware, program identification decals and accepted material signs);
- Collection service for the used oil (through a contracted hauler) free of charge;
- Disposal of any contaminated used oil;
- Public education brochures for distribution;
- Quarterly used oil collection reports
- Public outreach support

To serve the Maryland boating community, MES continues to provide collection sites at designated State-operated marinas. Several private marinas throughout the State also participate in the Program.

There were no contamination incidents attributed to Program affiliated tanks during the year.

Good housekeeping practices are important aspects of spill control and contamination prevention. The Program continually reminds each recycling coordinator or site supervisor of their pollution prevention responsibilities. A brochure entitled "*Guidelines*

2001 Annual Report


Used Motor Oil Collection Program (continued)

for Program Participants” was sent to all designated program coordinators in May, 2001. The brochure outlined the important role program participants play and the need for responsible management of their collection sites. The Program requires all sites that host a tank provide day-to-day monitoring of the tanks and communicate with the Program office when tanks reach a level of $\frac{3}{4}$ full. The Program can then arrange for an unscheduled collection.

The “Guidelines” brochure reiterated that Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is concerned about storm water run-off and potential non-point source pollution releases from used oil collection tanks and secondary containment areas located at collection sites. Keeping the surrounding area clean and litter free and minimizing spills are important aspects to the environmental stewardship the sites provide.

It is extremely unfortunate that the Program lost 4 collection locations in the past year. The stated reasons for withdrawal varied. However, these locations indicated that the public’s abuse of the drop-off locations, including leaving trash and hazardous materials, leaving large quantities of material and open buckets full of material, and concern over possible enforcement actions were the primary reasons why they opted out of the program.

Over the years many personnel changes have occurred at county and municipal locations which host program sponsored used motor oil collection tanks. The program is developing a newsletter to help foster communication between all the responsible parties — participating collection locations, program management, and MDE, the regulatory authority. The newsletter will highlight program accomplishments and update program activities.



2001 Annual Report

Public Outreach

The Program no longer receives supplemental financial support from the Pennzoil-Quaker State Company. The withdrawal of this funding severely curtailed significant public outreach events.

Attendance at the NORA 2001 Annual Recycling Conference and Trade Show provided the opportunity to network with Used Motor Oil Recycling Program Coordinators and Managers. NORA, formerly the National Oil Recyclers Association, is an association of responsible recyclers specializing in waste fluids. Participation in this conference provided an overview of different State's programs.

The program purchased commercial radio advertisement air time on WNAV 1430 AM. Several thirty second spots were produced and aired throughout the "Chesapeake Garden" program.

The program gained one new collection site during the year - Town of Thurmont - through the cooperative efforts of Maryland Environmental Service (MES), Frederick County Office of Recycling, and the Town of Thurmont. Town Commissioner Kenneth Oland was instrumental in coordinating this effort. Kudos also go to Lee Lambert, Frederick County Office of Recycling, for his resourcefulness and perseverance in working with all the parties to establish this important collection location.

During 2001, the Maryland Used Motor Oil Recycling Program was promoted at the Maryland Municipal League Conference and the Maryland Association of Counties Conference.

The brochure "Oil and Water Don't Mix," continues to be distributed.

MES maintains a toll-free telephone line to provide information about where and how to properly dispose of used oil as part of our Recycling Information Center. The program received approximately 2300 calls in 2001 with approximately 60 percent of the callers requesting information on used oil collection locations.

2001 Annual Report

Planned Activities for 2002

Planned activities for the new year will be marginal due to the very limited financial resources available for outreach opportunities. The following activities already underway will continue.

- Continue updating and linking the used motor oil recycling web site www.menv.com
- Continue dialogue and outreach opportunities with the private sector and special interest groups.

MES will continue to integrate and support the Used Antifreeze Recycling Program. In 2001, the Antifreeze Recycling Program collected 43,600 gallons for proper disposal.

Maryland Used Motor Oil & Antifreeze Collection Program

<u>Year</u>	<u>Used Oil*</u>	<u>Antifreeze*</u>
1989	34,426	
1990	145,153	1,800
1991	323,408	13,275
1992	482,019	22,239
1993	507,777	34,553
1994	575,391	34,635
1995	666,869	32,745
1996	687,095	37,414
1997	742,313	42,155
1998	776,806	36,915
1999	792,776	37,126
2000	801,297	40,675
2001	804,825	43,585
TOTALS	7,340,155	377,117

*gallons

USED OIL & ANTIFREEZE PROGRAMS

YEARLY COLLECTION TOTALS

