Maryland Used Motor Oil Recycling Program



1999 Annual Report

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

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CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
INTRODUCTION
Government-Operated Collection Program4
Volunteer Collection
PUBLIC EDUCATION
Advertising7
Brochures7
Information Center7
Planned Activities for 20007
SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Used Motor Oil Collection Facilities
Used Motor Oil & Antifreeze Yearly Collection Totals Graph10

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 maintain and information center to encourage citizens to recycle used motor oil.

Since 1988, more than 5.7 million gallons of used motor oil have successfully been collected for proper disposal from do-it-yourself automobile enthusiasts.

Program accomplishments include:

- Received continued financial support of \$30,000 to sponsor program activities and sponsor public outreach from Pennzoil-Quaker State Company;
- Collection of 793,000 gallons of used motor oil from government-operated locations;
- The number of program sponsored collection locations remained relatively stable over the year at 172;
- Continued collection of used antifreeze, another recyclable petroleum-based automobile fluid:
- Sponsorship of a special public outreach opportunity in partnership with the Washington, D.C. region of the Sportscar Club of America.



MARYLAND USED OIL RECYCLING PROGRAM

1999 ANNUAL REPORT¹

The 1999 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 2000.

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.

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Government-Operated Collection Program

Collection of used motor oil from government-operated location yielded approximately 793,000 gallons in 1999. Since its inception in 1988, the Program has expanded from 44 collection sites to 172 sites currently in operation and recovered more than 5.7 million gallons of used motor oil.

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

1) Tanks (275-gallon above ground tanks, including hardware, program identification decals and accepted material signs);

2) Collection service for the used oil (through a contracted hauler) free of charge;

- 3) Disposal of any contaminated used oil;
- 4) Public education brochures for distribution;
- 5) Quarterly used oil collection reports.



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

Unfortunately, there were two (2) contamination incidents attributed to Program affiliated tanks during the year. The program incurred a significant financial liability for the disposal of this material characterized as a hazardous waste. 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..

Volunteer Collection Locations

With the cooperative efforts between the State and local governments and private organizations, the State Program will continue to provide convenient, reliable locations for used oil collection to the citizens of Maryland. (Reference Table 1.)



PUBLIC EDUCATION and PROGRAM SUPPORT



Pennzoil Company continues to be the Used Oil Recycling Program's most enthusiastic supporter. Again this year, Pennzoil Company made a very generous financial commitment of \$30,000.00. Governor Glendening, said in a letter sent to Pennzoil-Quaker State company President and Chief Operating Officer, Mr. James J. Postl, "...your support is a fine demonstration of a public-private partnership that encourages responsible stewardship of our precious natural resources." Pennzoil Quaker State Company was also recognized for its sponsorship by the Maryland Recyclers Coalition and received an award for "Outstanding Support of an Environmental Program."

With a dependable collection program in place, informing the public about the significance of the Program was the major focus this year. Maryland Environmental Service public outreach highlights include:

• The program and Pennzoil-Quaker State company are teaming up with the sports Car Club of America (SCCA) Washington, D.C. region to sponsor the "Pennzoil 12 Hours at the Point" Endurance Race. This unique partnership is an opportunity to support amateur motor sports competition, promote the proper collection and disposal of used motor oil and encourage responsible environmental stewardship when handling all types of automotive fluids.



Advertising

Administered with a lean budget, it is important to note that many public presentations generate promotional opportunities in various association and community newsletters, free of charge. Also, local newspapers frequently announce the opening of used oil collection centers to the community through press releases distributed by MES.

Brochures, Posters

"Oil and Water Don't Mix," the primary Program brochure continues to be distributed.

An Agency designed Program decals can be posted in the windows of automotive retail outlets and marinas that participate in the State's Program. The decal is a small scale replica of the decal affixed to the used oil recycling tanks.

Information Center 1 - 800 - 4 RECYCLE

For over 10 years, MES has maintained a toll-free telephone line to provide information about where and how to properly dispose of used oil. With this telephone line, the caller's access area has been expanded to include Washington D.C. and Northern Virginia. This increased service accommodates Maryland citizens who may work in the District of Columbia or Northern Virginia and require information concerning used oil recycling in their community.

The Program's Information Center processed approximately 4,000 calls in 1999, with approximately 60 percent of the callers requesting information on used oil collection locations. The information center is staffed during normal State office hours. At other times, a 24-hour answering machine provides message information.

Planned Activities for 2000

In addition to the continuation of activities already underway, future Program activities include:

- Continue updating and linking the used motor oil recycling web site <u>www.menv.com</u> with other appropriate web sites;
- Continue dialogue with the private sector and special interest groups;
- Sponsor the "Pennzoil 12 Hours at the Point" Endurance Race June 3, 2000 at Summit Point Raceway, Summit Point, West Virginia in partnership with Pennzoil and the Washington, D.C. Region of the Sports Car Club of America.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Used Oil Recycling Program provides an essential public service. The collection of more than 5.7 million gallons of used motor oil demonstrates the effectiveness of the Program. Promoting environmental awareness and education among the "do-it-yourself" target audience continues to be one of the Used Oil Recycling Program's primary objectives.

When the Program started soliciting counties and municipalities to establish collection sites, material contamination, cost of disposal, and liability were high on their list of concerns. Program expansion did not move forward until the Program accepted responsibility for the payment of any contaminated do-it-yourselfer tanks. Fortunately, contamination incidents have been minimized through direct oversight and public education efforts. The guarantee of disposing of any contaminated material was the basis for establishing collection sites throughout the State. Without this guarantee many collection facilities would no longer participate in the Used Oil Recycling Program.

The Used Oil Recycling Program's 1989 Annual Report recommended the initiation of a program for the proper collection of used antifreeze. Beginning in late 1990, MES sponsored and implemented the first statewide Used Antifreeze Recycling Program in the country. To date, Maryland's Used Antifreeze Recycling Program has grown to include 129 collection centers, with 37,000 gallons of used antifreeze collected in 1999. With the emphasis on restoring the Chesapeake Bay and it's tributaries, citizens need a convenient and environmentally acceptable disposal option for used motor oil and used antifreeze.

	Year	<u>Used Oil*</u>	Antifreeze*
	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
	FOTALS	5,734,033	292,857
*gallo	ons		

COUNTY	ΤΟΤΑΙ	
Allegany	5	
Anne Arundel	9	
Baltimore City	7	
Baltimore	8	
Calvert	7	
Caroline	5	
Carroll	9	
Cecil	5	
Charles	11	
Dorchester	5	
Frederick	7	
Garrett	3	
Harford	12	
Howard	2	
Kent	5	
Montgomery	5	
Prince George's	14	
Queen Anne's	8	
St. Mary's	6	
Somerset	7	
Talbot	3	
Washington	6	
Wicomico	11	
Worcester	8	
TOTAL	168	

Table 1. USED OIL COLLECTION FACILITIES

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USED OIL & ANTIFREEZE PROGRAMS

YEARLY COLLECTION TOTALS

