

Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Fact Sheet

Background

Vehicle repair shops generate regulated waste, either from the services they provide, such as fluid replacement, or from operations they perform, such as parts washing. Some common waste types include:

Degreasers	Spent solvents
Engine fluids (oil, antifreeze)	Paints and thinners
Floor dust	Paper products (masking paper, cardboard, office paper.)
Floor wash water	Rags and absorbents
Lead acid batteries	Refrigerants
Metal parts/scrap	Tires
Oily waste sump sludge	

Here are some options vehicle maintenance and repair companies can use to reduce waste.

Train Employees to use Good Housekeeping Practices

- Implement spill prevention measures to reduce products from entering the environment.
- Perform preventative maintenance on equipment and vehicles.
- Check incoming vehicles for leaking fluids. Use drip pans to prevent spillage.
- Prevent non-hazardous material from getting contaminated by segregating waste streams.
- Monitor your inventory in storage to reduce accumulation of over-age products.
- Implement a “first-in first-out” policy.

Substitute Materials

- Look for ways to replace solvents with water based cleaners.
- Substitute detergent-based solutions for caustic solutions when cleaning.
- Substitute non-asbestos brake lining for asbestos brake lining.
- Purchase materials in non-aerosol form.
- Use biodegradable floor cleaners.
- Use non-chlorinated brake cleaners.

Modify Processes

- Pre-rinse parts with spent cleaning solution.