

## Frequently asked questions from salvage yard operators

### ***How can I get rid of antifreeze?***

Is the antifreeze a waste or a material? Antifreeze to be reused is not considered waste, but a material. Consider recycling waste antifreeze that cannot be reused. Some waste oil recyclers also recycle antifreeze. Residues from filtering reusable antifreeze or residues and filters from recycling systems may be hazardous due to metals and other contaminants. Have the wastes tested to determine whether they are hazardous, or assume they are hazardous and dispose of them through a hazardous waste hauler. If non-recycled antifreeze, residues, and filters are not hazardous, they may be solidified and disposed of at a permitted sanitary landfill.

### ***Why can't I just get rid of my tires along with the rest of my trash?***

Waste tires present special problems in landfills. Air space inside a tire, along with the flexible nature of the material, makes it difficult to keep buried. Whole tires take up valuable space in landfills, which could be used for other trash. As a result, whole tires are not allowed in landfills, and trash haulers should not pick them up.

Although limited in Kansas, use of tire material for fuel and raw material for manufactured products occurs in other parts of the country. Tires mixed with trash are very difficult to separate for other uses. Cutting, shredding, and baling waste tires reduces their volume by

more than half, making them easier to handle in a landfill. Most Kansas tires currently go to licensed mono-fills, or landfills containing only processed tires. These tires may be dug up if local markets for tire material develop.

### ***What are the steps I need to take to make sure my business complies with waste tire laws?***

If you sell new or used tires, you must accept a similar number of waste tires from customers, unless they are commercial customers and you do not mount the tires. Also, if you're selling tires to the public, prominently display the KDHE waste tire educational poster. Never store more than 1,500 waste and/or used tires for longer than 30 days. If you pay someone to remove your tires, make sure they have a current KDHE permit to haul waste tires. Make sure that you maintain tire disposal records for five years. If you have piles containing more than 500 tires, control mosquitos and rodents. Rick tires, or store on tread or racks, with no piles exceeding 50 feet in width.

### ***If I burn used oil in a space heater, can I mix my solvent waste with the used oil?***

No, unless you use a non-hazardous solvent. Check the MSDS (material safety data sheet) available from the vendor. An oil/solvent mixture has a greater potential to blow up the heater or release toxic air pollutants.



***So, I've heard something about a new air standard for aluminum recycling. What's this about, and am I affected?***

The new federal air regulation covers operations at secondary aluminum operations – which includes recovery of aluminum from scrap. Although many different types of equipment are covered, the requirements most likely to affect salvage yards are those covering the operations of sweat furnaces used to reclaim aluminum from unusable auto parts and other scrap. The rule has different requirements, depending on how big your operations are and how much air pollution you could release. Businesses that emit 10 tons/year or more of a listed hazardous air pollutant (HAP) or 25 tons per year of a combination of HAPs are classified as major sources. All other sources are classified as area sources.

If you would like more information on secondary aluminum MACT requirements, we have a fact sheet, *New NESHAP Affects Secondary Aluminum Production*, that you can download from our Web site at [www.sbeap.org](http://www.sbeap.org). If you do not have Internet access but would like more information, have questions as to whether your business is affected, or would like help in determining your possible air emissions, please call the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) at Kansas State University at 800-578-8898.

***What is an SPCC plan, and do I need one?***

Under the federal Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) program, administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a storage capacity greater than 660 gallons in a single aboveground container, 1320 gallons total aboveground storage capacity, or 42,000 gallons of total underground storage capacity establishes whether an operator is subject to SPCC provisions.

Lubrication oils, gasoline, and diesel which remain in vehicles at your yard are not considered as being in

storage and therefore are not considered in determining on-site storage capacity. Additional information regarding SPCC program requirements can be obtained by contacting the EPA regional office at 800-223-0425, or SBEAP at Kansas State University at 800-578-8898.

***Are salvage yards automatically required to file for an NPDES stormwater runoff permit associated with industrial activities?***

Under the Stormwater Permitting Program requirements associated with industrial activities, salvage yards operating under a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code of 5015 or 5093 are required to file for an NPDES stormwater permit. While the EPA has adopted a waiver from participating in the permitting program for businesses having all materials, loading areas, and waste disposal areas covered in such a manner that precipitation and stormwater runoff do not come into contact with materials at the site, it is unlikely that salvage yard operators would be able to adequately satisfy the provisions under which the “no exposure” waiver would be authorized. Additional information regarding NPDES stormwater permitting associated with industrial activities can be obtained by contacting Mr. Eric Staab at 785-296-4347.

***I'm a small quantity generator (I generate less than 55 pounds of hazardous waste per month). Do I have to keep any records on the waste from my facility?***

Small quantity generators (SQGs) are not subject to hazardous waste notification or reporting requirements. However, if you, as an SQG, accumulate 55 pounds (approx. 5-7 gal.) or more of hazardous waste, then you must recycle, treat, or dispose of the waste either on site or at a hazardous waste management facility. In addition, there are labeling and storage area inspection requirements, which are described in the *Hazardous Waste Generators Handbook*. Call KDHE, or SBEAP at 800-578-8898 for a copy of the handbook or for more information.



The Small Business Environmental Assistance Program's (SBEAP) mission is to help Kansas small businesses comply with environmental regulations and identify pollution prevention opportunities. SBEAP is funded through a contract with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. SBEAP services are free and confidential. For more information, call 800-578-8898, send an e-mail to [SBEAP@ksu.edu](mailto:SBEAP@ksu.edu), or visit our Web site at [www.sbeap.org](http://www.sbeap.org). Kansas State University is an EEO/AA provider.