

# Used Motor Oil

## Why is oil recycling important?

Used motor oil consists of used oil from cars, motorbikes (four-stroke), boats, trucks and other machinery. If an average car is serviced every three months, it is producing around 16 litres of used motor oil per year. Oil has a very high potential to contaminate the environment, both land and water, and it is a highly valuable non-renewable resource. Incorrect disposal of oil can lead to contamination of both surface and groundwater, and as it takes just 1 litre of oil to contaminate one million litres of water<sup>1</sup>, one car could contaminate 16 million litres of water per year.

Recycling oil not only ensures that the oil is not incorrectly disposed of, it also minimises the environmental impact of oil extraction and ensures that precious oil deposits will last longer.

## Where can I recycle my used motor oil?

You can drop your used motor oil, free of charge, at any Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) in the Murrindindi Shire:

- ✓ Alexandra
- ✓ Yea
- ✓ Kinglake
- ✓ Eildon
- ✓ Marysville



## What happens to my oil after it has been processed for recycling?

After the oil has been collected from our RRCs, it is taken away for processing and cleaning of contaminants which accumulate in the oil throughout its use within the engine, and then processed to be reused as one of<sup>1</sup>:

- Refined based oil which can then be used as a lubricant, hydraulic or transformer oil
- Bitumen based products
- Fuels for industrial machinery
- Mould oil

## For more information/references:

<sup>1</sup> Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, 2009, *Why we should recycle used motor oil*, Factsheet, Canberra, viewed 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016, <<https://www.environment.gov.au/protection/used-oil-recycling/recycling-your-oil>>.

