

Regulated Waste Program – Appendix G: Bulk Used Oil Tanks

Used oil is one of the non-hazardous waste streams at PCC that has specific management requirements for storage and recycling. PCC has a number of departments that generate used oil including but not limited to Automotive, Aviation, Diesel, Grounds, Parking & Transportation, and Dealer Services. It is important that used oil be properly recycled to prevent potential pollution of the air, land, and waterways.

I. Storage Container Requirements

Used oil must be stored in bulk tanks or containers in good condition with no structural defects. The containers must be labeled as “Used Oil”.

Only used oil can be added to a bulk used oil tank. Many contaminants (antifreeze, fuel, brake cleaner, etc.) can change the waste classification and cause the used oil to be a hazardous waste. Because of this, most used oil management companies will not allow contamination in the used oil they collect. Any used oil containing contaminants must have their own containers for storage and be managed as hazardous waste.

Once a bulk used oil tank is 90% full, an appropriate used oil management company will be contacted for pick up and recycling.

II. Storage Container Locations and Procedures

There are three locations at PCC that have bulk used oil tanks; Rock Creek Building 2 outside of the Diesel department, Sylvania CSB in the Grounds department, and Sylvania AM in the Automotive department. Because work tasks differ at each location, there are specific procedures for each used oil tank.

A. Rock Creek

The used oil tank at Rock Creek is located at Building 2 outside the bay doors for the Diesel department and is utilized by multiple departments. Because of this, there is a specific procedure for ensuring the used oil is added safely to the tank. The inlet for the bulk tank is designed so that a used oil handler can be attached and used oil safely pumped into the tank. There is a used oil handler stored in the main shop area of Diesel that already has the proper attachments connected. The procedure for adding used oil to the tank is as follows:

- When a department generates used oil and wants to add it to the bulk tank, an employee from that department must contact the instructional support tech (IST) for Diesel (ex. 7275) to coordinate a time to access the used oil handler.
- Once a time for using the oil handler has been established, the employee with used oil must transport the oil in an appropriate container to the bulk tank. Containers should have tight sealing lids and secondary containment if possible to protect against spills during transportation.
- Following the manufacturer’s instructions, the used oil should be added to the oil handler and the handler connected to the bulk tank’s inlet valve. The used oil will then be pumped into the tank.

- Once the used oil has been added, the employee should access the bulk accumulation log on the department's network drive and update the file with the specifics of the information on the oil added (department, date, amount, etc.).

B. Sylvania Grounds

The used oil tank located in Sylvania Grounds department is inside the main service area and is utilized by three departments: Grounds, Custodial, and Parking & Transportation. These departments generate used oil when performing routine maintenance on various vehicles and equipment.

Each department has their own work area where the vehicle or equipment repairs are completed. Once the temporary collection container is full or the repair work is complete, the department generating the used oil transports the waste to the bulk tank.

The design of the Sylvania Grounds used oil tank does not require special equipment to safely transfer used oil into the tank, therefore no additional equipment training is required.

C. Sylvania Automotive

The used oil tank for Sylvania Automotive is located inside the south service bay on the second floor of the AM building. The bulk tank is specific to that academic program and therefore access is restricted to Automotive instructors and students and is only for used oil that is generated during academic courses.

The inlet for the bulk tank is designed so that a used oil handler can be attached and used oil safely pumped into the tank. There are two used oil handlers stored in the main shop area that already have the proper attachments connected. All instructors and students are trained on the procedures specific to their use and maintenance.