



Alberta Used Oil Management Association



*June 6, 2011*

## **Recycling in Alberta remains a well-oiled machine**

### ***One billion litres of used oil recycled in Alberta***

*Edmonton...* One billion litres of used lubricating oil have now been diverted from landfills and sewers in Alberta, thanks to a program that began in 1997. That's the equivalent of more than 880 thousand standard hot tubs or more than 29,000 tanker trucks, spanning Highway 2 from Edmonton to Calgary and back.

"I am proud of Alberta's used oil program," said Environment Minister Rob Renner. "I commend the Alberta Used Oil Management Association and its partners for creating a world-class program both in terms of quantity and breadth of materials collected and recycled. The association has contributed to the development of a sophisticated recycling industry and helped foster greater environmental stewardship in Alberta."

"The members of the petroleum products industry in Alberta and Canada have become credible and competent stewards of the products they create and sell," said David Dingle, chairman of the Alberta Used Oil Management Association. "What started in Alberta 14 years ago has grown across Canada, and we are now seen as leading stewards in used oil management in our country and throughout the world."

In addition to used oil, almost 85 million used oil filters and more than 20 million kilograms of used plastic oil containers have been recycled. Used oil is turned into fuel for industrial burners, re-refined into reusable lubricating oil, or used as base stock for other industrial applications. Containers and filters end up as construction material such as rebar, clean pelletized feedstock for new plastic products, or oily plastic flake for fence posts and railroad ties. In Alberta, 87 per cent of used oil, 89 percent of used oil filters and 87 per cent of used oil plastic containers are recycled.

Alberta's used oil recycling program was started in 1997 by the Government of Alberta and the lubricating oil industry. The Alberta Used Oil Management Association, which manages the recycling incentive program, has worked with a network of industry members, wholesale suppliers of lubricating oil products in Alberta, private collectors and primary processors of used oil products to facilitate recovery and recycling of the waste materials. In addition to used oil recycling, the province has stewardship programs to recycle tires, paint, electronics, and beverage containers. For more information, please visit: [www.environment.alberta.ca](http://www.environment.alberta.ca).

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**Media inquiries may be directed to:**

Leanne Behrns  
Communications  
Alberta Environment  
780-427-6267

Roger Jackson  
Executive Director  
Alberta Used Oil Management Association  
780-414-1514

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

To call toll-free dial 1-888-922-2298.