



## Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp.

### 2017 Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze and Container Recycling Program Update

The Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (SARRC) is a non-profit corporation formed by the oil, filter, antifreeze and diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) industry in Saskatchewan to develop, implement and maintain a single, cost-effective, province-wide Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze and Container Recycling Program. SARRC was incorporated February 12, 1996. The program, approved by the Ministry of Environment, has been widely accepted and supported by consumers, industry, environmental groups, governments and other stakeholders.

- From January 1 to December 31, 2016
  - 0.43 million kilograms of used oil, antifreeze and diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) containers;
  - 1.99 million used oil filters;
  - 18.33 million litres of used oil; and
  - 307,527 litres of used antifreeze were recycled.
- Since the program began (Oct 1997 to Dec 2016)
  - 5.70 million kilograms of used oil, antifreeze and diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) containers;
  - 35.95 million used oil filters;
  - 324.81 million litres of used oil; and
  - since April 1, 2014 696,792 litres of used antifreeze have been recycled.
- Used oil collected in 2016 at 18.33 million litres was down 3.8% from 2015. The amount of used oil available for collection in 2016 at 26.64 million litres decreased 3.6% from 2015 resulting in the collection rate remaining at 69%, the same as 2015.
- Used oil filters collected in 2016 at 1.99 million filters were down 5.1% from 2015. However, the amount of oil filters available for collection decreased 7.1% from 2015 to 2.48 million in 2016, resulting in the filter recycling rate increasing from 78% in 2015 to 80% in 2016.
- Antifreeze was added to the SARRC program April 1, 2014 with 168,724 litres of used antifreeze collected in the last three quarters of 2014. In 2015 220,541 litres of used antifreeze were collected, while in 2016 collections increased 39% to 307,527 litres. Antifreeze available for collection in 2016 at 2.24 million litres dropped 9% from 2015. With the increase in collections in 2016 the antifreeze recycling rate increased from 9% in 2015 to 14% in 2016.
- Containers collected decreased 7% from 0.46 million kilograms in 2015 to 0.43 million kilograms in 2016. However, the total weight of used oil, antifreeze and DEF containers available for collection decreased 5% from 2015 to 1.011 million kilograms in 2016. This resulted in the 2016 container recycling rate holding steady at 43%, the same as 2015. In previous years SARRC commissioned Pulse Research Ltd. to conduct an extensive plastic oil container study, finding that Saskatchewan farmers annually re-use about 80% of their 20-litre oil pails, resulting in a 24% province-wide container re-use rate. With annual recycling rates for used oil/antifreeze/DEF containers at 43%, the re-use/recycling rate was 67% in 2016.

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**Making every  
drop count**

Saskatchewan Used Oil,  
Filter, Antifreeze & Container  
Recycling Program

- These Return Incentive program results represent substantive achievements by the private sector recycling industry, increasing or holding collections with commodity prices remaining at levels lower than usual. In anticipation of increased collection costs, SARRC increased Return Incentives July 1, 2015 for used oil filters by 7%, for used oil/antifreeze/DEF containers by 8%, for used antifreeze by 25% and for used oil by as much as 64% over 2014 levels. These increases appear to have met the desired longer term goal of stabilizing and maximizing the collection of used oil and antifreeze materials throughout Saskatchewan.
- Used oil is reprocessed into re-refined lubricating oil, industrial burner fuel and other products. Used oil filters are processed into structural metal shapes for the manufacturing of industrial and agricultural products. Plastic oil/antifreeze/DEF containers are recycled into industrial posts, railroad crossings, plastic pipe and new containers. Plastic 20-litre pails are refilled with bulk lubricants, or cleaned and re-used for a wide number of applications. Used antifreeze is highly recyclable, with most used antifreeze being processed into new commercial antifreeze.
- Purpose-built Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze & Container EcoCentres provide services for DIYs, farmers and small business operators who change their own oil and antifreeze and wish to safely dispose of their used oil, oil & diesel fuel filters, antifreeze and oil/antifreeze/DEF containers. Thirty-four Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze & Container EcoCentres, including Flin Flon/Creighton, are now open in Bengough, Biggar, Davidson, Esterhazy, Fort Qu'Appelle, Gravelbourg, Grenfell, Hudson Bay, Humboldt, La Ronge, Leader, Maple Creek, Meadow Lake, Melfort, Melville, Moose Jaw, Moosomin, Nipawin, Outlook, Preeceville, Prince Albert, Redvers, Regina, Rosetown, Saskatoon, Shaunavon, Spiritwood, Swift Current, Unity, Watrous, Weyburn, Wynyard and Yorkton. The EcoCentre in the Kindersley area continues to be targeted for relocation.
- Additionally, used oil and antifreeze collection facilities, which are additional services for DIYs, farmers and small business operators who change their own oil and antifreeze, continue their activities in Saskatchewan communities. Almost 200 used oil and antifreeze collection facilities are available for use in nearly 200 Saskatchewan communities.
- The theme "Mother Nature Thanks You!" continues to be expanded to widely promote the Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze and Container Recycling Program and the EcoCentre/collection point network. Six caricatures including a beaver and a fish protecting water, a horse/cow and badger protecting land and an owl and duck protecting the air speak the good news digitally and in print. A series of six same-themed radio ads run locally and province-wide on over 20 radio stations during the spring, summer and fall collection periods. The Executive Director continues to be interviewed on radio stations across Saskatchewan. Our website [www.usedoilrecyclingsk.com](http://www.usedoilrecyclingsk.com) continues to be heavily used. Educational and promotional activities were conducted province-wide in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council (SWRC). Using Mr. Oil Drop, Auntie Freeze, and Recycling Ambassadors, visits were made to EcoCentre/collection points, oil and filter retailers, municipalities and local communities. SARRC, led by Recycle Saskatchewan and in association with six other provincial stewardship and recycling programs, continues to offer a one portal recycling information website for Saskatchewan citizens at [www.recyclesaskatchewan.ca](http://www.recyclesaskatchewan.ca).
- SARRC Used Oil, Filter, Antifreeze and Container Recycling Program results continue to exceed program expectations, protecting the environment and promoting and facilitating the recovery of valuable, non-renewable resources. The program provides a single, comprehensive, cost-effective, sustainable and province-wide program in harmony with similar current programs in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. SARRC has formalized this cooperation by joining provincial associations in forming the National Used Oil Material and Antifreeze Advisory Council (NUOMAAC). This organization coordinates the Canada-wide used oil and antifreeze material recycling effort and encourages consistent national standards for this unique and successful industry-led stewardship recycling program.