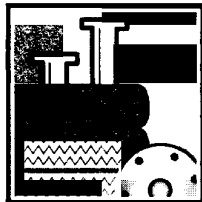


WASTE MINIMIZATION

AUTOMOTIVE DISMANTLING INDUSTRY



BACKGROUND

The automotive dismantling industry in Alberta is comprised of hundreds of businesses, from backyard enthusiasts to large commercial operations. Of the approximately 250 commercial dismantlers in Alberta, 80 belong to the Alberta Automotive Recyclers & Dismantlers Association (AARDA). Over 80,000 vehicles are

recycled by dismantlers each year. The industry, particularly through AARDA, is continually seeking ways to reduce the amount of waste destined for landfills. This sheet is intended to help all auto dismantlers further reduce the amount of materials currently being landfilled.

WASTE MINIMIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

Waste can be minimized by using the 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Reduce refers to a change in procedures or operations that results in less waste produced, or eliminating waste by avoiding single-use or disposable items. Reuse refers to utilizing materials a second or third time before treating them as waste. Recycle refers to converting a waste back into a usable material.

REDUCE

- Purchase degreasers, oil, antifreeze, and other chemicals in bulk. This will reduce the number of containers.
- Replace paper towel dispensers in washrooms with cloth towel dispensers or electric hand dryers.

REUSE

- Remove and sell any reusable parts prior to crushing and recycling of motor vehicles.
- Dry-clean or wash oily or soiled rags rather than disposing of them.
- Reuse, sell or give away used antifreeze.
- Store and resell brake fluid.
- Reuse motor oil and gasoline on-site to power vehicles or use for energy recovery for furnaces designed for that purpose.
- Sell, use on-site, or give away usable tires and rims.
- Purchase reusable items instead of disposable or single-use items.

RECYCLE

- Collect brake fluid and send it to a recycler.
- Stockpile tires in a safe manner on-site or at a landfill facility, until such time as they can be recycled. Tires should not be landfilled.
- Antifreeze should be reused, sold as used, or sent to a recycler.
- Send lead-acid batteries directly to a battery rebuilder or recycler.
- Vehicle bodies are eventually crushed and sent directly, or through a scrap metal dealer, to a steel mill. Where volumes are too small to contract a crusher, contact similar businesses to combine enough vehicles to make the operation economically viable.

It is recommended that auto dismantlers check to ensure that materials such as batteries, rags, etc. are removed from vehicles prior to crushing.

- Glass should be recycled whenever possible.
- CFCs should be recovered and recycled. Staff should be trained to use CFC recovery equipment.
- Aluminum, copper and brass can be collected and sold to scrap metal dealers. Combine quantities from several businesses if necessary to make the effort worthwhile.
- The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) is working with plastics companies to develop an efficient method for sorting and recycling plastic vehicle parts. SAE and the plastic companies have come up with new ways of marking plastic parts, identifying them by plastic resin type. Auto makers are hoping this new program will allow fast, efficient identification when sorting plastic parts for recycling. More information on recycling plastic automotive parts should be available in the near future.
- Research is also under way to find ways to recycle "fluff". More information should be available in the near future.
- Purchase recycled or recyclable items such as fine paper and toilet paper whenever possible.

