



# THE GREEN GAZETTE

## Environmental Management Systems at Work USDA/ARS Tifton, GA

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### Disposing of Oil Filters

Federal guidelines call for used oil filters to be either "hot drained" or else crushed and drained before disposal. Commercial oil changing outlets such as Jiffy Lube and Pep Boys are required by [law](#) to recycle waste oil and oil filters. The larger outlets will usually accept and dispose of both your old oil and oil filters, free of charge. Here at work, bring your used oil and filters to the USDA CPMRU Used Oil/Tool shed next to Bldg. 57.



You can "hot drain" filters as follows. First, change your oil and filter after a 10 minute drive so that the engine is warmed up. Hot oil thins out and will drain faster and more thoroughly.

Drain most of the oil out of the filter by dumping it into your oil collection jug, using a funnel. Then lay the filter on its side and puncture a hole in it about a quarter of an inch from the bottom (see photo) using a hammer and large nail or awl. Then place the filter in a funnel over the jug in a protected area and let it drain for twelve hours, to meet federal standards.

You can dump some sawdust in the filter (optional) to absorb any residual oil, wrap it in a plastic bag, and put it the trash.

### Great Job Recycling – Keep It Coming!

The location is now tracking all of our recycled items. From October 2010 through March 2011, we have recycled the following amounts:

