



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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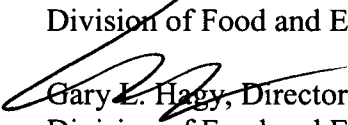
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June 22, 2009

**PIM #09-01**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Directors  
Environmental Health Managers  
Division of Food and Environmental Services Staff

**FROM:**  Gary L. Hagy, Director  
Division of Food and Environmental Services

**SUBJECT:** Foodservice Protection – Disposal of Used Cooking Oils

Attached is a new PIM on the disposal of used cooking oil that is being issued at the request of the Department of Environmental Quality.

The format of the document is that which we developed for all entries into the Division's Program Implementation Manual. Please insert this document in your PIM manual and distribute copies to all persons in your district working in the foodservice protection program.

This PIM is effective July 1, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

**Program:** Foodservice Protection

**Subject:** Disposal of Used Cooking Oils

**Objective:** To ensure food establishments are properly disposing of used cooking oil in the Commonwealth.

**Authority:** *Code of Virginia* § 62.1-44.34:8 Definition of oil  
*Code of Virginia* § 62.1-44.34:18 Discharge of oil prohibited  
Virginia Administrative Code § 12 VAC 5-421-2580 Other liquid wastes and rainwater.

**Background:** The definition of oil in the *Code of Virginia* (§ 62.1-44.34:8) includes used cooking oil. The discharge of any oils onto the ground's surface, into the waters of the Commonwealth, or into storm sewer is prohibited by § 62.1-44.34:18 of the *Code of Virginia*. The *Food Regulations* in §12 VAC 5-421-2580, requires all nonsewage liquids to be disposed of in accordance with law. Improper disposal of oil can contaminate water and create public health nuisances.

**Required Actions:** VDH environmental health specialists, during inspections of food establishments, will determine if the food establishments are properly disposing of cooking oil.

**Responsibility:** District environmental health managers are responsible for ensuring all district food staff are aware of this interpretation and implement it as part of their food establishment inspections. VDH environmental health specialists shall note a violation to §12 VAC 5-421-2580 if they observe the improper disposal of used cooking oil that results in the oil being discharged onto the ground, into the water, or into storm sewers. Also, they will notify the regional office of the Department of Environmental Quality of their observation. Alternatively, if the Department of Environmental Quality receives a complaint involving a restaurant discharge of cooking oil and *DEQ requests assistance*, the VDH environmental health inspectors will perform an initial investigation of the complaint.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009

Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gary L. Hagy

Director

Division of Food and Environmental Health Services