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## Mammoth Motocross – The Oil Capture

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Five drums of oil are the result of the oil recycling program at Mammoth Motocross. In total, about 225 gallons of oil were captured, compared to 110 gallons last year. This year's oil recycling program was more aggressive with the help of grant money from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Michael Grossblatt, administrative analyst for the Town of Mammoth Lakes, applied for the grant, which has resources targeted for funding waste oil programs.

Lisa Isaacs, Mammoth Mountain's environmental specialist, was at the gate of the motocross track, and handed out close to 1,000 empty gallon containers, oil funnels and oil rags to help in the oil collection. The racers were encouraged to take the collection containers home to be reused.

A number of collection drums were placed around the pit area at the track. The collected oil was hauled away and recycled into regular oil. Beverage containers and tires were also collected at the event for recycling. The response from racers was positive. "I got so many thank yous," Isaacs said. "We got back other hazardous fluids – gas, anti-freeze, and oil mixtures."

The oil recycling program will be run at the next motocross in August. Next year Isaacs is hoping to get a corporate sponsor to sponsor the environmental program at the motocross.

Oil recycling is second nature for Mammoth Mountain, the organizer of the motocross event. The Ski Area has approximately 450 vehicles serviced on the Mountain, from buses, trucks, snowmobiles, to snowcats. Oil is collected and recycled from servicing all these vehicles, along with oil from chair lifts and generators.

For private citizens wishing to recycle oil in Mammoth, Mammoth Disposal in the Industrial park pays 16 cents a gallon for used oil. Oil is also collected at service stations and Mono County transfer stations/landfills. This includes transfer stations at Walker, Benton, Chalfant, and landfills at Benton Crossing and Pumice Valley in Lee Vining. – JDJ