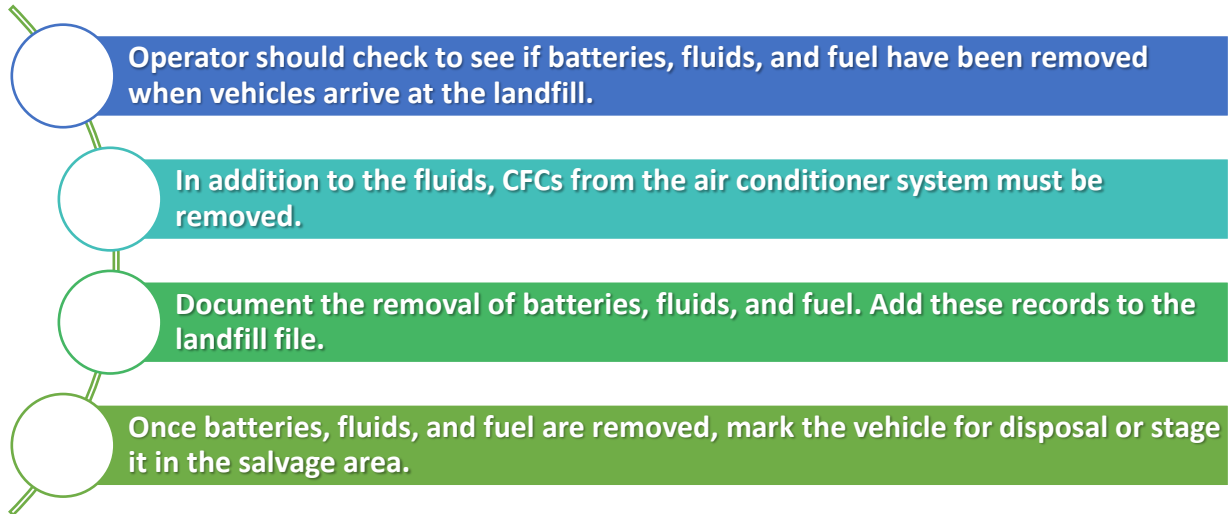


5.9 Vehicles

Vehicles can be disposed of at the landfill once all fluids, batteries, mercury switches, and CFCs have been removed. If undrained vehicles are stored at the landfill for disposal or recycling, they must be managed to prevent the release of fluids. (18 AAC 60.035, 18 AAC 60.010)

Steps for junk vehicle management:



What fluids to remove:

Removing all fluids includes draining the:

- Engine oil
- Transmission fluid
- Anti-freeze
- Differential or gear oil
- Power steering fluid
- Fuel
- Brake fluid
- Clutch fluid



Vehicles crushed and staged for backhaul or disposal.

Fluids should be put into containers and handled along with HHW collection. Failure to remove fluids and CFCs can result in leaks which can cause contamination.

How to remove fluids:

There are two main ways to remove the fluids from junk vehicles. The car can be placed on an appropriate lift and the fluids drained, or a portable suction hand pump and canister can be

used, such as a Mighty Vac designed to pump fluids out of the vehicle. The suction hand pump and canister have the advantage of eliminating the need to crawl under the vehicle to remove fluids.

Uses for junk vehicles (once fluids are removed):

- Station them end-to-end to block access into closed areas at the landfill.
- Incorporate them into berms at the landfill.
- Use them to separate disposal areas at the landfill.
- If heavy equipment is available, the vehicles can be stacked to create a windbreak to prevent windblown litter.



Vehicle marked empty prior to disposal.

Backhaul?

Once the batteries, fluids, fuel, and CFCs have been removed, the vehicle can be backhauled for recycling or crushed and disposed of in the landfill. Junk vehicles have little risk of environmental contamination if handled properly. If backhaul funds are limited, the most environmentally friendly option is to backhaul household hazardous waste before vehicles. If vehicles will not be backhauled within three years, they should be disposed of in the landfill. Don't leave vehicles sitting staged for backhaul or salvage for years.

Helpful Tips:

- Don't mix fluids! If antifreeze, used oil, and transmission fluid are mixed together in a barrel, the mixture is non-recyclable. This means it must be shipped as hazardous waste, which is very expensive.
- If the landfill does not have the space or the funds to handle junk vehicles, they can be prohibited from disposal at the landfill, or the landfill can charge a disposal fee to cover the costs (fluid removal, crushing, backhaul, etc.)
- If staging vehicles, four-wheelers, and snow machines for salvage, there is a limited amount of time the parts are viable for salvage. At some point the vehicle will need to



Vehicles used as a berm to mark the edge of the working face.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RURAL ALASKA

be removed from the salvage area and properly disposed of.

- Some common vehicle parts, such as alternators, radiators, catalytic converters, etc., may have salvage value and can be sold to recyclers.

Examples:



ATVs segregated from the rest of the waste.



Junk vehicles staged for salvage.