



This step is fundamental to preflighting the aircraft, without this water removed, the aircraft won't operate.

Source:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sk6FHxRmbOs>



so this step is key to safety.



However, the fuel goes on the tarmac and evaporates so the impact to the environment is minimal.

Source:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sk6FHxRmbOs>



County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION
P.O. BOX 129261, SAN DIEGO, CA 92112-9261
Phone: (858) 505-6700 or (800) 253-9933 Fax: (858) 505-6786
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GENERAL AVIATION MANAGING SUMPED AVIATION GAS (AVGAS)

County of San Diego Pollution Prevention

Pilots are required to conduct a pre-flight inspection to determine airworthiness prior to operating an aircraft [14CFR§91.7(b)]. In piston-powered aircraft a small amount of fuel is drawn from several quick drain valves and checked for contamination in a procedure known in the General Aviation (GA) community as “sumping”.



A common procedure historically used by pilots is to dispose of the sumped fuel and contaminated water to the ground assuming it would evaporate. AvGas fuel is flammable and toxic. It is illegal to dispose of any amount of unwanted AvGas or contaminated water by evaporation or to the ground surface, storm drain, or sewers. Disposal of the fuel on the ground negatively affects air, soil, and water quality. AvGas deteriorates asphalt increasing the risk of foreign object damage (FOD) to aircraft, and seeps into underlying soil and groundwater where it persists and causes environmental damage.

Several options are available for proper management of sumped AvGas. Recycling is the preferred method. If safe to do so, AvGas may be returned to the aircraft fuel tanks. Pilots may use a sampling device with a filter to remove contaminants so the sumped fuel may be returned to the aircraft through the fill port. A gasoline analysis test separator (GATS) jar was developed by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for this purpose. AvGas unsuitable for use in an aircraft may be used in ground-based equipment, such as motorized tows, weed trimmers, or other small engines if it complies with local air quality regulations and will not damage the equipment or compromise worker safety.



HAZARDOUS WASTE	
STATE & FEDERAL LAW PROHIBIT IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE. VIOLATORS ARE SUBJECT TO FINES REACHING \$25,000 PER INCIDENT. REFER TO THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE [HSC §25100] FOR MORE DETAILS.	
PROPER DOT 49 CFR 173.13	US DOT 49
GENERATOR'S NAME AND ADDRESS Name: Aviation Facility, Inc. Address: 125 Airfield Drive, Hangar #1 City: San Diego State: CA Zip: 92123	
DOT HAZARDOUS WASTE NUMBER: 69-000234150	HAZARDOUS WASTE NUMBER:
CONTAINER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 392	CONTAINER NUMBER: 2001 0008
CONTENTS, COMPOSITION, AND DESCRIPTION: Waste Fuel Tank AvGas with tetraethyl lead	
HAZARDOUS WASTE CLASSIFICATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Corrosive <input type="checkbox"/> Flammable <input type="checkbox"/> Irritant <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic	HAZARDOUS WASTE CLASSIFICATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Corrosive <input type="checkbox"/> Flammable <input type="checkbox"/> Irritant <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic
HANDLE WITH CARE! © 2000 BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	

AvGas that cannot be recycled and contaminated water sumped from an aircraft's fuel system must be stored and disposed of as hazardous waste by a California registered hazardous waste transporter. Every person who sumps AvGas must have a proper means of waste storage and disposal readily available.

Always sump your fuel as a part of your pre-flight safety inspection in accordance with the operating handbook for your aircraft and FAA regulations. By using filtering fuel samplers, recycling sumped AvGas, and managing AvGas waste as hazardous waste you are protecting the environment, protecting the apron surface from deterioration, reducing FOD damage to aircraft, and saving money in fuel costs.



California law prohibits disposing of aviation gasoline (AvGas) to the ground, sewer, and storm drain. Violators are subject to fines reaching \$25,000 per incident. Refer to the California Health and Safety Code [HSC §25100] for more details.

If your airfield does not already have a convenient waste fuel management program in place, consider approaching airport management and tenant operators about implementing one. For more information about how to implement and maintain a waste AvGas management program contact:

Hazardous Materials Division
Department of Environmental Health, County of San Diego
PO Box 129261, San Diego CA 92112-9261

Phone: 858-505-6880

Email: hmdutyeh@sdcounty.ca.gov

Website: sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/deh/hazmat

NOTE: We are grateful for the participation of the following organizations that contributed experience and expertise to the content in this document:

*Montgomery Field Airport Management, FBOs, and Tenant Operators
City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department
County of San Diego Airport Authority
Federal Aviation Administration
County of San Diego Air Pollution Control District
County of San Diego Dept. of Public Works, Watershed Protection Program
County of San Diego Hazardous Materials Division
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board*

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