GNYADA frequently gets calls asking what dealers can charge customers for waste disposal (or environmental fees) and shop supply charges. Handle these carefully to avoid violations.

**WASTE DISPOSAL FEES**

According to the Department of Motor Vehicles, a dealer may impose a reasonable charge for the disposal of waste materials, except for motor oil, batteries, and tires.

Charges for the disposal of all other wastes (anti-freeze, brake fluid, solvents, etc.) must be clearly identified and itemized in all estimates and repair orders. *Dealers may not use pre-printed fees or percentage based fees.*

**TIRES**

New York State requires the sellers of new tires to collect a $2.50 Waste Tire Fee for every new tire sold. This fee, too, must be itemized on all estimates and repair orders. Dealers may not charge an additional disposal fee to cover their own disposal costs. However, you may incorporate disposal costs into the price of the new tire.

**HAZARDOUS WASTES**

Be careful not to label your disposal fees as a hazardous waste fee. A lot of the waste dealers generate is not hazardous, and labeling it hazardous could require you to treat it differently.

**SHOP SUPPLIES**

Dealers may charge for shop supplies (nuts, bolts, solvents, cleaners, etc.) if you itemize the cost of the supplies, charge separately for them on all estimates and repair orders, and disclose the charges in advertisements. As with waste disposal fees, DMV does not approve of pre-printed fees or percentage based fees.

**ADVERTISING ISSUES**

If you advertise a price for service (i.e., an oil change special), be sure to include any shop fees in your price, or waive them in connection with the advertised offer. Not long ago, Jiffy Lube settled a class action suit involving environmental surcharges that resulted in coupons to the plaintiffs and $148,500 in legal fees to the plaintiff’s attorneys.