



Maryland Department
of the Environment

FACTS ABOUT: UST SYSTEMS COMPLIANCE OUTLINE

In Maryland, certain UST systems must meet various compliance requirements. The following is a summary of the current requirements for UST owners and/or operators.

ALL UST SYSTEMS

1. Register new UST system within 30 days of installation.
2. Submit complete amended UST Notification Form upon change in owner, change in service, or permanently closed.
3. See “Residential and Farm UST Systems” below for exceptions.

MOTOR FUEL, USED OIL, BULK HEATING OIL STORAGE

(Federal/State Regulated Systems)

All Systems

Operator Training:

1. By August 8, 2012, owner must maintain a list of designated, trained, and certified A, B, and C Operators.
2. Also by August 8, 2012, owner must provide written instructions that are readily available in accordance with COMAR 26.10.16.03

Inspections:

1. Must inspect USTs upon being notified by MDE using a MDE-certified inspector.
2. Inspection cycle is every 3 years and inspection must be performed upon change in UST ownership and new UST installation.

Existing Systems

Installed prior to January 25, 2005:

1. Must use MDE-certified technician for repairs.
2. Must have monthly monitored release detection for tanks and lines.
3. Must have spill and overfill protection.
4. Must have corrosion protection.
5. Metered storage systems must keep daily inventory records and reconcile monthly.
6. Install two monitoring pipes in opposing corners in tank field. (On or after March 15, 1985).
7. Mark the fill pipes to indicate size of tank and product type per COMAR and/or API.



Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard | Baltimore, MD 21230-1718 | www.mde.state.md.us
410-537-3000 | 800-633-6101 | TTY Users: 800-735-2258

8. All pressurized piping must have line leak detectors that are tested annually and precision tested annually, or have monthly monitored release detection.
9. Must have financial responsibility.
10. Test all spill catch basins annually.
11. Test all containment sumps at installation and every 5 years thereafter.
12. See additional requirements below for gasoline USTs in HRGUAs or WHPAs.
13. Must notify MDE-OCP in writing 5 working days prior to beginning the installation.

Installed on or after January 26, 2005:

1. Be installed with double wall piping for all product, vapor, and vent piping.
2. Have a containment system at both the tank top and under the product dispenser.
3. Be inspected by a MDE-certified inspector within 6 months of installation.
4. Comply with all existing system items listed above.

New, Replacement, or Upgraded* Systems

Installed on or after January 12, 2009:

1. Must use MDE-certified UST technician.
2. Must be installed with double wall tanks.
3. Must have interstitial monitoring.
4. Test the secondary portion of the piping prior to use and every 5 years thereafter.
5. Comply with all other existing system items listed above.

Emergency Generator Tanks

These systems must follow Federal/State regulated UST requirements above with the following exemption.

Installed prior to March 1, 2008

1. Exempt from monthly monitored release detection.
2. Must be precision tested at 15 years of age and every 5 years thereafter.

Note – Stationary Internal Combustion Engines used to power electric generators are required to be registered or permitted by the MDE-ARMA if they are above 500 brake horsepower (373 kilowatts) and/or if the generator is used to generate electricity for sale or for peak or load shaving. Any engine installed prior to July 1, 1988 requires registration. Electric generators installed after July 1, 1988 require a construction permit.

HEATING OIL FOR DIRECT CONSUMPTIVE USE

(State Regulated Systems)

Existing Systems

Installed prior to March 15, 1985:

1. Gauge tank prior to filling; record and retain record.
2. Precision test system at 15 years of age and every 5 years thereafter.
3. Mark fill pipes to indicate tank size and product stored per COMAR and/or API.
4. Test all spill catch basins annually.
5. Test all containment sumps every 5 years

Installed on or after March 15, 1985:

1. Gauge tank prior to filling; record and retain record.

2. Must have corrosion protection.
3. Use MDE-certified technician for installation or repairs.
4. Install two monitoring pipes on opposing corners in tank field.
5. Mark fill pipes to indicate tank size and product stored per COMAR and/or API.
6. Precision test system prior to first use and at 15 years of age and every 5 years thereafter.
7. Have spill and overflow protection on or after November 4, 1996. For USTs under 1,000-gallon capacity, a vent whistle is acceptable.
8. Must notify MDE-OCP in writing 5 working days prior to beginning the installation.
9. Test all spill catch basins annually.
10. Test all containment sumps every 5 years

Installed on or after January 26, 2005:

1. Be installed with double wall piping for all product, vapor, and vent piping.
2. Have a containment system at both the tank top and under the product dispenser.
3. Comply with all existing system items listed above.

New, Replacement, and Upgraded* Systems

Installed on or after January 12, 2009:

1. Must be installed with double wall tanks.
2. Comply with all existing system items listed above.

MARINAS

In addition to the standard motor fuel requirements, marinas must also comply with COMAR 26.10.03.07 (See COMAR for exact language).

Existing and New Systems

1. Fuel delivery nozzles shall be equipped with a self-closing valve that will shut off the flow of fuel when the hand is removed from the nozzle. Hold open devices may not be used on these nozzles.
2. Each pipeline conveying oil from an oil storage facility to a wharf, pier, or dock shall be provided with a readily accessible shut-off valve located on shore near the approach to the wharf, pier, or dock, and outside any diked area. The shut-off valves shall be grouped at one location and marked "Emergency Shut-Off".
3. Owners must submit plans for piping systems associated with piers or docks for approval by the Department. A plan may be approved if the Department determines that it is adequate to prevent the discharge of oil.

NFPA30A, Chapter 10 (See text for complete language)

1. Tanks shall be on shore or on a pier of the solid-fill type.
2. If a gravity head is possible, a device to prevent gravity flow must be installed.
3. Piping must be protected from physical damage.
4. Facility must have an attendant or supervisor on duty when open for business.
5. Piping on piers shall be adequately bonded and grounded.
6. "No Smoking During Fueling Operations" signs must be posted.
7. Emergency shut-off switches must be readily accessible.

**HRGUA AND WHPA OF THESE TARGET COUNTIES: BALTIMORE,
CARROLL, CECIL, FREDERICK, AND HARFORD ****

New Gasoline UST Systems

New gasoline UST Systems used to fuel motor vehicles in High Risk Groundwater Use Areas (HRGUAs) or Well Head Protection Areas (WHPAs) must either:

1. Submit required documents to demonstrate the storage system does not pose a threat; or
2. Comply with the following:
 - a. Test the system for vapor leaks, using the MDE protocol, prior to startup;
 - b. Use interstitial monitoring;
 - c. Implement one of the following:
 - i. Install three or more groundwater monitoring wells (2" wells are acceptable);
 - ii. Install a pressure control device; or
 - iii. Install a Soil Vapor Extraction System; and
 - d. Additionally, USTs with a capacity >2,000 gallons or for multiple tanks in the same tank excavation must install four monitoring pipes connected in a manner that allows for the rapid installation of a soil vacuum extraction system.
3. Within 30 days:
 - a. Sample the site supply well and any monitoring wells; and
 - b. Test all spill catch basins and containment sumps for leaks.
4. Yearly:
 - a. Sample the site supply well and any monitoring wells; and
 - b. Test all spill catch basins for leaks.
5. Every 5 years test all containment sumps for leaks.

Existing Gasoline UST Systems

Existing gasoline UST Systems that are >2,000 gallon in capacity, utilize Stage II vapor recovery, and are used to fuel motor vehicles located in the HRGUAs or WHPAs of these targeted counties of Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick and Harford, shall:

1. Submit required documents to demonstrate the storage system does not pose a threat; or
2. Within 180 days:
 - a. Test all spill catch basins and containment sumps for leaks;
 - b. Install three or more groundwater monitoring wells (2" wells are acceptable); and
 - c. Sample the site supply well and any existing monitoring wells.
3. Within 1 year test the storage system for vapor leaks.
4. Yearly:
 - a. Sample the site supply well and any monitoring wells; and
 - b. Test all spill catch basins for leaks.
5. Every 2 years test for vapor leaks, using the MDE protocol.
6. Every 5 years test all containment sumps for leaks.

Sampling

Groundwater sampling must be performed by utilizing test methods required by the regulations. When levels of concern are discovered those levels must be reported to the Department. Levels of concern are: >5 ppb benzene; >1000 ppb toluene; >700 ppb ethylbenzene; >10,000 ppb xylenes; and/or >20 ppb MTBE.

OUT-OF-SERVICE UST SYSTEMS

1. USTs that do not comply with corrosion protection requirement: permanently close within 180 days of last use.
2. USTs that meet corrosion protection requirements: permanently close within 1 year of last use.
3. Notify Department by completing the Underground Storage System Removal/Abandonment 30-Day Written Notification Form and confirm by telephone 48 hours prior to beginning removal.
4. Site assessment is required. MDE-OCP inspector must be present on site.
5. Removal must be performed by MDE-certified technician or remover.
6. Submit amended UST Notification Form and UST closure report.

RESIDENTIAL AND FARM UST SYSTEMS

1,100-gallon Capacity or Less

USTs with 1,100-gallon capacity or less that are used to store petroleum products at a private residence or farm are exempt from most Maryland oil control regulations. These systems must comply with closure requirements when no longer used as a fuel source (COMAR 26.10.10).

1. The OCP does not require prior notice of the closure.
2. Removal must be performed by MDE-certified technician or remover.
3. The tank owner and contractor must report any discovered release as required by Maryland law and regulations.
4. MDE strongly recommends the replacement of USTs >20 years of age

Over 1,100-gallon Capacity

USTs over 1,100-gallon capacity that are used to store petroleum products at a private residence or farm are not exempt from Maryland regulations and must follow the requirements below.

1. Must be registered with the Oil Control Program.
2. Heating oil systems over 1,100 gallons must comply with the "Heating Oil for Direct Consumptive Use" requirements above.
3. Motor fuel systems over 1,100 gallons must comply with the "Motor Fuel, Used Oil, Bulk Heating Oil Storage" requirements above.
4. MDE strongly recommends the replacement of USTs >20 years of age.

Notes

* A UST system is considered to be upgraded when the tanks and/or 40% or more of the piping system are replaced.

** The HRGUA is all areas served by individual wells or within a well head protection area in Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, and Harford counties.

OIL CONTROL PROGRAM – 410-537-3442

This fact sheet has been provided for informational purposes. This document is not intended nor should it be interpreted to be a regulation, as defined in Section 10-101, State Government Article. The MDE encourages you to read and understand the regulations that govern the operation of underground storage systems found in Code of Maryland Regulations 26.10. "Oil Pollution and Tank Management."