

Underground Storage Tanks—Heat & Fuel

This resource is a guide on how to research your school's underground storage tank (UST) and steps to take for replacement. It's important to note that there is no way to tell how long an underground storage tank will last. The State recommends that you start planning for replacement if the tank is over 30 years old. Remove the tank on your schedule before it leaks!

Note: The State has recently made revisions to the Underground Storage Tank Rules (effective 10/13/18) to meet the EPA's revised regulations effective 2015. A summary of the UST changes can be found here: <http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/UST/Summary%20of%20changes%202018%20UST%20Regs.pdf>. Here are a couple highlights of the changes:

- Testing of sumps and spill buckets to be sure they aren't leaking
- Restricted use of ball float valves.

Quick Regulatory Reference on Underground Heating Oil Tanks and Motor Fuel Tanks

Heating Oil Tank Regulations	Motor Fuel Tanks
Notification to State only	Must be permitted by State
No permit required, inspection, or operating standards	Must be inspected by State at least once every 3 years
	Subject to UST Rules which require operational and equipment standards (weekly leak detection, record keeping, monthly inspections, reporting unusual operation conditions).

Here are three simple steps to find information on your school's underground storage tanks and how to develop a replacement plan:

- 1) Start by searching for your school using the State's Environmental Research Tool: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/ERT/UST2.aspx>.
- 2) Under Facility Tank Status you can view which tanks are active and the year they were installed.
- 3) Regardless of how old the tank may be, it is important to start putting a replacement plan together. Review the underground storage tank rules that are pertinent to your storage tank type: <https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/dec-underground-storage-tank-rules-2011-10-01.pdf>. Most USTs at schools are category three. Use the following resource to find a contractor to assist in the replacement process: <https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/UST/UST%20Contractors.pdf>.

Contact your Multi-Line Risk Management Team for further guidance and assistance with your underground storage tanks: 802-223-6132



LEGAL HUMAN FMLA RESOURCES
EVALUATION ERGONOMICS STRATEGY
AUDIT TRAININGS REMEDIATION INSPECTIONS
INSPECTIONS
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VSBIT
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Above Ground Storage Tanks

This resource is a basic guide on Above Ground Storage Tanks (AST) to help direct you to resources from the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Vermont Fuel Dealer's Association

Review the AST rules (Effective 8/15/17): https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/UST/Aboveground_Storage_Tank_Rules_8-15-2017.pdf. Note, there is a database of ASTs, <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/ERT/AST.aspx>, however if your AST is less than 1,320 gallons than you are exempt.

Quick Regulatory Reference for Facility Managers

Periodic inspection (once every three years) by a trained inspector.

Inspections are also required before the first delivery to a new system or to a new customer

Non-compliance with one or more of the five items that the Department of Environmental Conservation records show are the cause of, or contribute to, a release of heating oil; here are the following five items to pay close attention to:

1. No vent alarm
2. Unstable foundation
3. Improper sized vent/fill pipes
4. Buried or unprotected piping from tank to appliance
5. General poor condition (cracks, bulges, leaks, drips, pitting etc)

Here are two checklists that should be provided by a tank inspector and kept on file by the school:

1. For new installations or first fill: https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/UST/2017.08.15.AST_.New_.First_.Fill_.checklist_FINAL.PDF
2. Routine (Every 3 year) or New Customer: https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/UST/2018.09.15.AST_.Routine.New_.Customer.checklist_FINAL.pdf

Vermont Fuel Dealers Association:

- If your tank is in poor condition and needs to be replaced, you may be eligible for a tank rebate from the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association: <http://www.vermontfuel.com/tankrebate/index.html>.
- If you're looking for a fuel dealer or servicer, go to the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association's webpage, and they can provide you with a list: <http://www.vermontfuel.com/index.html>

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