

AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

ON-FARM PETROLEUM STORAGE & HANDLING

FARMSTEAD BMP #3



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Description:

Operate and maintain fuel storage tanks that do not pollute surface water or groundwater, and complies with federal, state and local requirements.

AWOA Minimum Requirements:

Do not pollute surface water or groundwater from operation/maintenance of fuel storage tanks. Develop and implement a [Groundwater Protection Plan](#). Use tanks designed for petroleum product storage and label all tanks. Post contact information for the Environmental Response Team 800-928-2380 or 502-564-2380 on all storage tanks. Store absorbent materials nearby, in case of spill. Install tanks according to manufacturer's recommendations. Locate tanks as far as practicable from water sources (e.g., plastic piping, wells, streams, ponds, septic systems, or open channel sinkholes). **If a spill occurs:** •Clean up immediately with absorbent material. •Correct leaks immediately. •*If >50 gallons of gasoline or 75 gallons of diesel are spilled, it must be reported to Environmental Response Team 800-928-2380.* •Empty remaining contents from tank. **When closing a tank in place:** •Remove all product and residue from the tank. Product may be used in equipment. Any residues or remaining product may be recycled. Contact [Division of Waste Management \(DWM\)](#) or [Solid Waste Coordinator \(SWC\)](#) for assistance locating waste oil recyclers.

•Disconnect and cap lines and fill pipe and leave vent lines open. **When removing underground storage tanks:** •Remove all product and residue from tank. •Place any contaminated soil on plastic and cover with plastic. Prevent runoff of contaminated soil from storage area. •If evidence of contamination (free product, staining, strong odors) is observed in final excavation, request professional assistance from DWM. •Minimal amount of stained or odorous soil can be backfilled in the tank pit, placed on plastic and covered, or placed on plastic in a bermed area and allowed to aerate. •Tanks must be disposed of properly (e.g. scrapped or used as culvert only after removing all product and residue from tank). Contact DWM or SWC for information. •If groundwater is contaminated, contact DWM and/or DOW. Tank owner should contact the local conservation district and/or DWM for assistance if there is a significant amount (> 20 cubic yards) of contaminated soil, or if there is any groundwater contamination.

Recommendations:

Buyers beware that the current property owner is responsible for petroleum storage tanks and spills unless an exclusion is written into purchase agreement indicating prior owner is liable. Check with lender for an environmental audit checklist. Checklist will assist the purchaser of a farm to identify problems that could lead to costly pollution cleanups. **When Installing Tanks:** •Above-ground tanks - use concrete pads with *retention structures or soil berms for secondary containment to prevent spills* from moving into waterways. •Direct traffic around tank pits, tanks, and pumps to protect from vehicle collision and damage. Driving over a buried UST can collapse the tank or cause leaky connections. •Install bollards to prevent damage to tank from vehicles or trailers. •Use some type of leak detection (i.e., record reconciliation, secondary containment).

Technical References

State Resources

- [DWM Underground Storage Tank Branch](#)
- [Environmental Release Reporting and Cleanup Requirements](#)
- [NFPA 395 Standard for Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids at Farms](#)
- [NFPA 31 Standard for Installing Oil-Burning Equipment](#)
- [Groundwater Protection Plans](#)
- [Generic Groundwater Protection Plan for Home Heating Oil Tanks](#)
- [State Fire Marshal Hazardous Materials](#)

Funding Assistance Options

State Cost Share

- No cost share assistance is currently available for this BMP.

Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

Important Considerations

Water Quality Benefit (🟦-🟦🟦🟦🟦): 🟦
(KEY: 🟦=good, 🟦🟦🟦🟦=best: see [STEPL Model](#))