

## Does your facility need to comply with Washington State's Oil Spill Prevention and Contingency Planning Standards?

If you have or are planning to install an **aboveground storage tank (AST)** to store oil, including petroleum products, biodiesel or other biological oils, here are the most important questions to ask if your facility needs to comply with the Washington State oil spill prevention and contingency regulations:

### Where is your facility located?

Is your facility located on or near the navigable waters of the state or will a spill from your facility pose significant threat to the navigable waters of the state? Taking a look at topographic maps can help you determine if this is so. If this describes your facility, then ask yourself the next question.

### How is oil delivered or distributed at your facility?

If your facility transfers oil to or from a tank vessel, such as a barge or oil tanker, or to or from a pipeline, then your facility is subject to Washington State's Contingency Planning and Facility Oil Handling Standards regulations (Chapters 173-182 and 173-180 WAC). You are required to prepare an operations manual, a training and certification program for your operators, and spill prevention and contingency plans. Also, all equipment involved in oil transfer operations must be designed, inspected, and maintained in accordance with specific industrial standards. If the oil is only transported to or from your facility by tank truck or by tank rail car, then your facility does not meet the current definition of a regulated facility and you do not need to comply with these regulations. Washington State does not require the registration or licensing of ASTs. Please contact the Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response Program at the Department of Ecology for further information at 360-407-7455, or take a look at the website, <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/spills.html>.

### WHY IT MATTERS

Aboveground storage tanks used for oil, biodiesel, other biological oils, and petroleum products can be the source of a spill and are subject to Washington State Law, Chapters 173-182 and 173-180 WAC.

### Contact information:

Washington Dept. of Ecology  
Spill Prevention, Preparedness,  
and Response Program  
Prevention Section  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
Olympia (360) 407-7455  
Fax (360) 407-7288

### Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Spills Program at 360-407-7455. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

# Focus on Aboveground Storage Tanks

## **Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan Requirement:**

Your facility may still be subject to the SPCC plan requirement even if it is exempted from the state oil spill regulations. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency administers the Oil Pollution Prevention regulation, 40 CFR Part 112. This regulation requires oil-handling facility owners to prepare SPCC plans to both prevent oil spills and to respond should a spill occur at their facility. This regulation has been revised, and the revisions became effective on August 16, 2002. However, facilities have until July 1, 2009 to revise or create, and implement their plans. If you already have prepared an SPCC plan, find out how these revisions affect your plan and your facility. For more information on the Oil Spill Programs at the EPA visit their web site, <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/index.htm>, or call the EPA Region X Oil Programs Coordinator at 206-553-1886.

## **Other oil storage requirements:**

All the facilities regulated under the state's oil spill regulations are required to inspect and maintain their aboveground storage tanks in accordance with American Petroleum Institute Standard 653 (API 653). Also, all ASTs in Washington are subject to the International Fire Code (IFC), which is a part of the Washington State Uniform Building Code. Your local fire district administers the IFC. For more information on the IFC and its requirements go to the International Code Council web site, <http://www.iccsafe.org/>.

For information regarding **underground storage tanks**, please follow this link: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/ust-lust/tanks.html>