



Focus on Technical Assistance Program

From Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program

Do you own or operate petroleum underground storage tanks (USTs) regulated by the Department of Ecology? Would you like an Ecology inspector to tell you how well your operation complies with requirements--without fear of penalty?

If your answer is "Yes," you can benefit from Ecology's Technical Assistance Program.

The program works this way: call Ecology and request an inspector to come to your site. Your technical visit may consist of an examination of your tanks lines, and inventory records or it may involve instructions on how to remove or close a tank. It depends on your request and what you need done.

If you are having your tank system inspected, you will need to have the necessary paperwork available on the day of the inspection. Besides an examination of your records, an inspection may involve examination of your dispenser and tank, as well as review of your inventory control system. If you operate an Automatic Tank Gauging system (ATG), you may have to produce a test strip. In addition, you should know what to do when the alarm goes off if your system is equipped with an ATG. Once your inspection has been completed, you will be given a copy of the inspection report.

If your site is not in compliance with the state standards, you will not be penalized (unless there is significant harm to human health or the environment). You will, instead, negotiate a compliance schedule with the Ecology inspector.

To make an appointment for a site visit or inspection:

If your tank is located in --	Please call
<i>Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish or Whatcom County</i>	<i>(425) 649-7000</i>
<i>Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston or Wahkiakum County</i>	<i>(360) 407-6300</i>
<i>Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan or Yakima County</i>	<i>(509) 575-2490</i>
<i>Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla or Whitman County</i>	<i>(509) 329-3400</i>

Ecology feels this program can be a win-win solution all around. You can receive free technical assistance and Ecology can carry out its mission to protect the environment by identifying problems early on.

Please note: This program is not for home heating oil tanks or for farm or residential tanks of 1,100 gallons or less capacity used for non-commercial purposes.