Major Provisions adopted by Montana UST Program

- Monthly walk-through inspections
- UST system fuel compatibility
- Release detection requirements
- Annual testing requirements for release detection equipment
- 3-year testing requirements for overfill devices and spill buckets
- Suspected release reporting

Suspect Leaks & Reporting

Alarms, including interstitial monitoring alarms, require suspected release reporting to DEQ unless:

- monitoring device is found to be defective and is immediately repaired, recalibrated, or replaced, and
- additional monitoring does not confirm the initial result.

Report suspected releases to DEQ within 24 hours.
1-800-457-0568 (M-F 8-5)
or
406-324-4777 (after business hours)

Resources & Forms

UST page https://deq.mt.gov/twr/Programs/ust
UST Forms https://deq.mt.gov/twr/resources

Walkthrough Inspection Form
Fuel Compatibility Checklist
Product Type Change Form

Licensed Individuals
PEI RP 1200 (documents available for purchase)
PEI RP 900 (documents available for purchase)

Montana Underground Storage Tank Rule Updates

DEQ Underground Storage Tank Section

1520 E 6th Ave
Helena, MT

Mailing address:
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Phone: 406-444-5300
Fax: 406-444-1374

DEQ Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Walkthrough Inspections

Required now: Owners/Operators must conduct monthly walkthrough inspections to prevent and quickly detect releases.

The following equipment requires inspection:

◊ Spill buckets and fill pipes: Every 30 days
◊ Release detection equipment and records: Every 30 days
◊ Containment Sumps: Annually

The inspections may be completed using DEQ's Walkthrough Inspection Form or PEI RP 900, which is available for purchase from their website. Inspections may be performed by:

♦ Owners
♦ Operator
♦ Class A, B, or C Operators
♦ 3rd party contractors

Fuel Compatibility

⇒ Owners/operators must notify DEQ at least 30 days before switching to a substance containing greater than 10% ethanol or greater than 20% biodiesel.*Required now.*
⇒ UST system compatibility must be demonstrated for the new substance. Fuel compatibility and product change forms are available on our website. *Required now.*

Release Detection Requirements

Statistical Inventory Reconciliation (SIR) must be able to detect a release within 30 days. *Required now.*

Catastrophic Line Leak Detection – Continuous Interstitial Monitoring is no longer allowed for catastrophic line leak detection. *Required now.*

For pressurized systems that have a Submersible Turbine Pump (STP), the STP must have a leak detector port and a functioning Automatic Line Leak Detector. *Required now.*

Out-of-Tank Leak Detection

Groundwater Monitoring and Vapor Monitoring, as a leak detection method, *will no longer be allowed after October 13, 2023.*

Testing Requirements

Annual Testing and Inspection

- *Required now*
- Primary release detection equipment must pass an annual functionality test.

The following equipment must be tested:

- Automatic tank gauges & probes
- Electronic and mechanical line leak detectors
- Interstitial tank & piping monitoring sensors

Testing Requirements cont'd

3-Year Testing and Inspection

- *Required now*
- Must be performed by a Montana UST Program licensee.
- Owners/Operators of regulated UST systems must test spill buckets and overfill prevention equipment every 3 years.

◊ Spill buckets: must pass a tightness test every 3 years. Double wall spill buckets with 30-day interstitial monitoring records may be used in lieu of performing a tightness test.
◊ Overfill devices: must be inspected for functionality every 3 years.
  ♦ Automatic shut-off devices (i.e. flapper valve, auto limiter) - 95% activation level
  ♦ Audio/Visual alarm via float sensor - 90% activation level
  ♦ Ball float vent valve* - 90% activation level
◊ Containment sumps: All containment sumps using interstitial monitoring as their primary line leak detection method must be hydrostatically tested** every three years. This includes all UST systems installed, modified, or replaced after November 26, 2009 (includes piping replacements) as well as systems that use interstitial monitoring as their primary piping leak detection method.

*Please note that ball floats that have been paved over must be inspected. *If a ball float fails an overfill inspection, it cannot be replaced and another approved device must be installed*.

***Other methods may be used. Contact the UST Program for details.*