

## Typical actions needed to maintain compliant Underground Storage Tank systems

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### Overview

*This document contains a list of typical actions necessary to maintain a compliant underground storage tank (UST) system containing petroleum or other regulated substances.*

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1. Obtain and keep a record of a valid release detection test result every 30 days (if the test result doesn't say "pass" or "fail" it doesn't count!). **If you get a "fail" result, report it to DEQ and investigate it immediately!**

Related Resources: [Tank Release Detection Overview](#), [Piping Release Detection Overview](#), [Automatic Tank Gauging - Fact Sheet](#), [Interstitial Monitoring - Fact Sheet](#), [Statistical Inventory Reconciliation \(SIR\) - Fact Sheet](#), [Responding to Releases from Petroleum Tanks](#)

2. If you have a steel tank that requires cathodic protection:
  - a. Know whether you have a galvanic or impressed current system
  - b. Test the cathodic protection system every 3 years
  - c. If you have an impressed current system, check your rectifier every 60 days and record the volts/amps in a log
  - d. If your CP test or rectifier indicates a problem, call a contractor to investigate and repair

Related Resources: [Cathodically Protected USTs](#), [Impressed Current Rectifier Log](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

3. Test your spill buckets for tightness every 3 years and keep a copy of the result. If it fails, repair or replace it.

Related Resources: [Spill Prevention Fact Sheet](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

4. Test your overfill prevention device (shutoff valve/ball float/alarm) every 3 years to make sure its functioning correctly. If it fails, repair or replace it.

Related Resources: [Overfill Prevention Fact Sheet](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

5. If you use interstitial monitoring as your piping release detection method, test your containment sumps and under-dispenser pans for tightness every 3 years. If it fails, repair or replace it.

Related Resources: [Containment Sump Testing Fact Sheet](#), [Interstitial Monitoring - Fact Sheet](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

6. Test your release detection equipment (e.g., automatic tank gauge, sump sensors) every year. If it fails, repair or replace it.

Related Resources: [Tank Release Detection Overview](#), [Piping Release Detection Overview](#), [Automatic Tank Gauging - Fact Sheet](#), [Interstitial Monitoring - Fact Sheet](#), [Statistical Inventory Reconciliation \(SIR\) - Fact Sheet](#), [Responding to Releases from Petroleum Tanks](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

7. Test your line leak detectors every year if you have pressurized piping. If it fails, repair or replace it.

Related Resources: [Piping Release Detection Overview](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#)

8. Depending upon what piping you have and when it was installed, you may need to get a tightness test every year or every three years unless the piping is monitored every 30 days for a release like your tanks. **If the test fails, report it to DEQ and investigate immediately!**

Related Resources: [Piping Release Detection Overview](#), [Equipment Testing Schedule](#), [Responding to Releases from Petroleum Tanks](#)

9. Make a list of your Class A, Class B and Class C operators for the facility and get them trained. Keep their training certificates handy to give to DEQ. Make sure you have appropriate emergency response procedures posted at your facility.

Related Resources: [Operator Training Fact Sheet](#), [Definitions of UST Operator Classes](#), [UST Operator Class Designation Form](#)

10. Perform a walkthrough inspection of your facility every 30 days and keep the checklists with your inspection results. Make sure to complete the annual walkthrough inspection at least once every 12 months and keep the records on file.

Related Resources: [DEQ's Walkthrough Inspection Checklist](#)

11. Notify DEQ of any changes to the tank system or its ownership by completing and submitting a registration form within 30 days of the change.

Related Resources: [Registration/Notification Fact Sheet](#), [Form 7530-3](#) and [Instructions](#)

12. Keep a copy of all of your test results, training certificates/lists and checklists in one place to give to DEQ at your inspection. Keep track of those test result dates so that you know when your next test is due!

Related Resources: [Equipment Testing Schedule](#), [UST Facility Compliance Calendar](#)

**Know your tank systems! Your compliance “to do” list will vary based on what kinds of system you have. If you need to request information, contact your DEQ inspector or email [tank@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:tank@deq.virginia.gov).**