



Underground Storage Tank Facts

B-36

Department of Building and Planning

- Permits are required from the Department of Building and Planning for all above and underground storage tank (U.S.T.) installations, alterations, removals, and abandonment's.
- All new installations of critical material storage in the Critical Aquifer Recharge Area (CARA), including under-ground storage tanks (U.S.T.'s), need to have secondary containment.
- A precision leak test is any method capable of reliable measurement down to five hundredths of a gallon per hour..
- All U.S.T.'s are assumed to have a forty year life.
- All single-walled U.S.T. installations forty years old or older shall be withdrawn from operation and either physically removed or converted to satisfy abandoned status, according to the applicable requirements.
- U.S.T.'s and associated piping shall be permitted to be repaired only once. A repaired U.S.T. shall not extend the forty year life.
- U.S.T. requirements make provisions for different categories of use, such as short-term out-of-service, long-term out-of-service, and abandoned-in-place. For more detailed information and approval, contact the Department of Building and Planning.
- The Washington State Department of Ecology (509) 329-3400 will maintain a list of underground tank site management/soil sampling companies, as well as tank removal contractors and tank testing contractors. Any or all of these

may be provided by the Department of Ecology upon request.

- Tanks not covered by the above U.S.T. requirements include: farm and residential tanks with less than 1,100 gallons of motor fuel not resold, tanks of heating oil used on the premises and petroleum tanks less than 110 gallons. Even though registration is not required, it is still necessary to obtain a permit to install or remove these tanks.

Other brochures that may be helpful

- B-4 *Permit Fee Schedule*
- B-15 *Propane Tanks*
- B-35 *Underground Storage Tank Abandonment/Removal*
- B-51 *Application Submittal Requirements for Building Permits*
- B-52 *Permit Processing Time Savers*

For more information contact:

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www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/ust-lust/tanks.html