Fact Sheet

Petroleum Release Reporting Requirements
For Heating Oil Tanks, Underground Storage Tanks, Spills, and Historic Releases

General Reporting Requirements
DEQ regulations require that confirmed or suspected releases of petroleum or other tank contents be reported. This includes releases at heating oil tank and non-HOT (regulated and non-regulated) USTs. This fact sheet describes the requirements for reporting at various UST sites.

Surface spills observed during the transfer of oil to or from a UST system must be cleaned up as required under Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Division 142. All oil spills exceeding 42 gallons to land or any quantity to surface waters must also be immediately reported to the Oregon Emergency Response System at 1-800-452-0311.

Heating Oil Tank Service Providers
Rules for heating oil tanks are found in OAR Divisions 163 and 177. Specifically, OAR 340-163-0020 (4) states: A service provider or supervisor must report a confirmed release of petroleum from an underground heating oil tank to the Department within 72-hours of discovery.

How to Report Leaking Heating Oil Tanks
All confirmed releases from heating oil tanks should be reported to DEQ’s Portland office at 503-229-5263 or through the online petroleum release reporting system at http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/tanks/report.htm.

Historic Releases
All confirmed petroleum contamination discovered during the course of a due diligence environmental site assessment that could be attributed to existing USTs must still be reported as described above. For facilities assessed that previously decommissioned their USTs, there is no reporting requirement provided the site was not closed with site restrictions that require notification to DEQ.

Additional Information
Oregon Administrative Rules can be found at http://www.deq.state.or.us/regulations/rules.htm

The UST Cleanup Manual can be found at http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/pubs/docs/tanks/USTCleanupManual.pdf

Alternative formats
Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.