

E3 IN MONTANA AGRICULTURE

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Fact Sheet: Oil Product Release Management for Farms WITHOUT Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans

Does this mean you?

Federal regulations require that a farm that:

1. stores, transfers, uses or consumes oil or oil products, such as diesel fuel, gasoline, lube oil, hydraulic oil, adjuvant oil, crop oil, vegetable oil, or animal fat; and
2. stores more 1,320 gallons or a buried storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons; and
3. could reasonably be expected to discharge oil to water of the US;

Prepare and maintain a site-specific SPCC Plan for their facility. An SPCC Plan is a detailed, facility-specific, written description of how a facility's operations comply with the requirements of the US EPA's Oil Pollution Prevention Regulation 40 CFR 112.

Farmers that store oil products that are not required to have SPCC plans should implement their own program to minimize or prevent releases that could impact their property and the general environment. Typical, cost-effective measures that could be used are:

- **Tank Location** – Storage tanks should not be placed near wells or other environmentally sensitive areas.
- **Emergency Shutoff Switch** – Emergency shutoff switches should be located a safe distance away from pumps.
- **Security** – Pumps and valves should be locked when unattended. Fencing and locked gates also discourage tampering.
- **Secondary Containment** – Secondary containment structures should be used to store the volume of the largest tank in the containment area *plus* an additional 10 percent to store a precipitation event at the same time. The structure including walls, berms and floor, must be capable of containing oil and must be constructed so that any discharge from the containment system will not escape containment before cleanup occurs. The confining material could be compacted clay soil, concrete, membranes, metal or other low permeability material. Several manufacturers provide secondary containment for drums and smaller tanks.

For calculating volume: 1 cubic ft (cu ft) will contain about 7.5 gal of liquid. For example, a 1,000 gal tank would require 1,100 gallons of secondary containment (1,000 gal + 10%). The 1,100 gal divided by 7.5 gal/cu ft results in 147 cu ft of storage space required. If the foot print of the containment area was 8ft by 10ft, the berm or wall height would have to be 1.8 ft. (Length x Width x Height = 8ft x 10ft x 1.9ft = 152 cu ft, which is greater than 147 cu ft)

- **Drip pans** – Drip pans should be used as necessary to collect oil from minor spills.
- **Spill Kit** – Many companies provide spill cleanup kits that include absorbents and other material for response to spills. Keep these on-hand.
- **Contact List** – Maintain a list of emergency or informational contacts such as the local health department, local fire department and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.



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