



## REPORTING A SPILL

Under Environment and Climate Change Canada's *Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations*, owners and operators are required to notify their regional spill centre of all spills and leaks. This fact sheet explains when and how a spill or leak must be reported.

## Tank Tip 12

### *on Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations*

#### What is a spill?

The regulations define a spill as "any loss of a petroleum product or allied petroleum product in liquid form from a storage tank system, including a loss during a transfer of such a product to or from a storage tank system, but not including a loss that does not reach outside the storage tank system's secondary containment."

Big or small, sudden or gradual, a spill is any accidental release of product from your system. For the purposes of reporting, spills include everything from slow leaks in piping, to catastrophic tank failures, to overflow or discharges beyond your system's secondary containment.

#### Do you report all spills?

You must call your regional spill centre to notify them of any spill or leak of product into the environment. If 100 litres or more of your product has been released into the environment, you must follow up the initial notification with a written report. Contact information for reporting a spill or leak can be found at the end of this fact sheet.

#### When do you report a spill?

Under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*, you must report a release or the likelihood of a release as soon as possible, given the circumstances. As well, you must take all reasonable measures with the protection of the environment and public safety to prevent or eliminate any dangerous conditions, or minimize any danger to the environment or to human life or health. Your regional spill centre is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



### What is required in your written report?

For releases of 100 litres or more, the written report you are required to submit must contain the following:

1. names of both the owner and operator of the storage tank system;
2. identification number of the storage tank system;
3. date on which the spill occurred or the leak was discovered;
4. each type of petroleum product or allied petroleum product that was released;
5. amount of each petroleum product or allied petroleum product that was released (or your best estimate if you cannot determine the quantity);

6. a description of the circumstances of the spill and what you have done to reduce its impact on the environment and public health and safety;
7. a description of what you have done following the spill to prevent it from happening again.

### Are there additional requirements?

Yes. If the release is the result of a leak, the leaking component must be taken out of service. For more information, please see [Tank Tip 5 – What Do You Do If You Suspect or Find a Leak?](#) and section 3 of the regulations.

### Where do you call to report a spill or release?

#### CONTACTS TO REPORT A SPILL OR RELEASE:

REGION	EMERGENCY NUMBER
<b>Alberta</b> Alberta Ministry of the Environment	<b>780-422-4505</b> <b>1-800-222-6514*</b>
<b>British Columbia</b> British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program	<b>1-800-663-3456</b>
<b>Manitoba</b> Manitoba Department of Conservation	<b>204-944-4888</b> (collect calls accepted within province)
<b>New Brunswick</b> Maritimes Regional Office, Canadian Coast Guard	<b>902-426-6030</b> <b>1-800-565-1633*</b>
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b> Newfoundland and Labrador Regional Office, Canadian Coast Guard	<b>709-772-2083</b> <b>1-800-563-9089*</b>
<b>Northwest Territories</b> Department of Environment and Natural Resources	<b>867-920-8130</b>
<b>Nova Scotia</b> Maritimes Regional Office, Canadian Coast Guard	<b>902-426-6030</b> <b>1-800-565-1633*</b>
<b>Nunavut</b> Department of Environment and Natural Resources	<b>867-920-8130</b>
<b>Ontario</b> Spills Action Centre	<b>416-325-3000</b> <b>1-800-268-6060*</b>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b> Maritimes Regional Office, Canadian Coast Guard	<b>902-426-6030</b> <b>1-800-565-1633*</b>
<b>Quebec</b> National Environmental Emergencies Centre	<b>514-283-2333</b> <b>1-866-283-2333*</b>
<b>Saskatchewan</b> Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment	<b>1-800-667-7525</b>
<b>Yukon</b> Yukon Department of Environment	<b>867-667-7244</b>

\*Telephone numbers accessible in province/region.

## Where do you send your written reports?

The report must be sent by mail or fax to the manager of inspections in your region at the address below.

### Pacific and Yukon Region

Regional Director  
Environment and Climate  
Change Canada  
201-401 Burrard Street (4th floor)  
Vancouver BC V6C 3S5  
Fax: 604-666-9059

### Prairie and Northern Region

Regional Director  
Environment and Climate  
Change Canada  
Twin Atria Building  
4999-98th Avenue NW Room 200  
Edmonton AB T6B 2X3  
Fax: 780-495-2451

### Ontario Region

Regional Director  
Environment and Climate  
Change Canada  
845 Harrington Crescent  
Burlington ON L7N 3P3  
Fax: 905-333-3952

### Quebec Region

Regional Director  
Environment and Climate  
Change Canada  
105 McGill Street (3rd floor)  
Montreal QC H2Y 2E7  
Fax: 514-496-2087

### Atlantic Region

Regional Director  
Environment and Climate  
Change Canada  
Queen Square  
45 Alderney Drive  
Dartmouth NS B2Y 2N6  
Fax: 902-426-7924



For more information, please visit our website at [www.ec.gc.ca/rs-st](http://www.ec.gc.ca/rs-st). If the information you need is not available on our website, please contact your regional office or the Storage Tank Program:

Pacific & Yukon	<a href="mailto:ec.reservoirspyr-tankspyr.ec@canada.ca">ec.reservoirspyr-tankspyr.ec@canada.ca</a>	604-664-9100
Prairie & Northern	<a href="mailto:ec.promconrpn-compropnr.ec@canada.ca">ec.promconrpn-compropnr.ec@canada.ca</a>	780-951-8600
Ontario	<a href="mailto:ec.enviroinfo.ontario.ec@canada.ca">ec.enviroinfo.ontario.ec@canada.ca</a>	416-739-4826
Quebec	<a href="mailto:ec.reservoirsqc-tanksqc.ec@canada.ca">ec.reservoirsqc-tanksqc.ec@canada.ca</a>	514-283-5350
Atlantic	<a href="mailto:ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca">ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca</a>	902-426-7231
Storage Tank Program	<a href="mailto:ec.registrereservoir-tankregistry.ec@canada.ca">ec.registrereservoir-tankregistry.ec@canada.ca</a>	1-844-672-8038

*This material has been prepared for convenience of reference and accessibility and does not have an official character. It is of a general nature only. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the regulations, users must consult the official version of the Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations and seek their own legal advice as appropriate.*

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