

Wells, Streams & USTs: Siting and Secondary Containment

If your UST is located near wells and certain surface waters, special siting requirements apply. To comply with the regulations, you may need to upgrade your system to secondary containment. Check the tables below to see if these requirements apply to you.

Note: UST systems that met the 1998 upgrade requirement before January 1, 1991 are exempt.

UST Systems Near Wells That Serve Public Water Supplies		
<p>Within 100 feet</p> <p>No system allowed unless installed before 1991 and immediately upgraded to secondary containment.</p> <p><i>Not eligible for the extended deadline.</i></p>	<p>Between 100 and 500 feet</p> <p>Upgrade immediately to secondary containment</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>Begin enhanced leak detection immediately to qualify for the extended deadline*.</i></p>	<p>Beyond 500 feet</p> <p>Secondary containment not required.</p>

UST Systems Near Other Wells Used for Human Consumption		
<p>Within 50 feet</p> <p>No system allowed unless installed before 1991 and immediately upgraded to secondary containment.</p> <p><i>Not eligible for the extended deadline.</i></p>	<p>Between 50 and 100 feet</p> <p>Upgrade immediately to secondary containment</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>Begin enhanced leak detection immediately to qualify for the extended deadline*.</i></p>	<p>Beyond 100 feet</p> <p>Secondary containment not required.</p>

UST Systems Near Surface Waters Designated High Quality Water, Outstanding Resource Water, Water Supply I, Water Supply II or Shellfishing	
<p>Within 500 feet</p> <p>Upgrade immediately to secondary containment</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>Begin enhanced leak detection immediately to qualify for the extended deadline*.</i></p>	<p>Beyond 500 feet</p> <p>Secondary containment not required.</p>

Enhanced Leak Detection

This combination of leak detection monitoring and well sampling offers certain UST owners an extended deadline to comply with secondary containment requirements. ELD for qualified UST systems should have begun by October 1, 2000. Maintain ELD until the system is upgraded to secondary containment. If you have not already started ELD, begin immediately to avoid potential fines.

Enhanced leak detection elements:

- **Automatic Tank Gauge**
Install a standard or continuous ATG for each UST. Standard ATGs require at least one valid 0.1 gallon per hour leak test monthly or one valid 0.2 gph test weekly. For continuous ATGs, conduct at least one valid 0.2 gph test weekly.
- **Electronic Line Leak Detector for pressurized piping**
Install an ELLD for each pressurized

piping system capable of detecting a catastrophic three gph leak. The ELLD must perform at least one valid 0.1 gph leak test monthly.

- **Line Tightness Testing for suction piping**
Conduct an annual line tightness test on each suction piping system. The test must be capable of detecting a leak rate of 0.1 gph. "European" or "safe" suction systems are exempt.
- **Annual Sampling**
Sample public water supply and any other wells used for human consumption annually for volatile organic compounds and semi-volatile organic compounds. If the UST system contains waste oil, the wells must also be sampled for lead and chromium. Collect annual samples in time for them to be postmarked no later than October 1st of each year. Send results only to your regional office. If you miss a

deadline, submit sample results immediately. For more information, call the central office at (919) 733-8486, call your regional office or visit us at <http://ust.enr.state.nc.us>

*Extended Secondary Containment Upgrade Deadlines

Do you use Enhanced Leak Detection? If so, install secondary containment before January 1st of the following years:

- 2005** All steel or metal connected piping and ancillary equipment
- 2008** All fiberglass or non-metal connected piping and ancillary equipment
- 2008** All USTs installed on or before January 1, 1991
- 2016** All USTs installed after January 1, 1991

Note: At least one-third of all leaks occur at the dispenser. Don't forget to add dispenser containment!