



CLASS C OPERATOR TRAINING HANDOUT

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality – Division of Waste Management
Underground Storage Tank Operator Training Program
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Class C Operator Training

By August 8, 2012, the owner or operator of an underground storage tank system must have trained Class A, Class B, and Class C operators for each facility owned. Training of Class A and B operators will be performed online at the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality's website. Class C operators may be trained by a Class A or Class B operator.

The Class C operator is an employee that is the first line of response to events involving emergency conditions. They are present onsite daily, except at unattended cardtrol facilities, which must have a posted sign. They are responsible for responding to alarms and other indications of emergencies caused by spills or releases from UST systems. The Class C operator notifies the Class B or Class A operator and appropriate emergency responders when necessary.

Not all employees of the facility are necessarily Class C operators. This individual typically:

- Controls or monitors the dispensing or sale of regulated substances, or
- Is responsible for initial response to alarms or releases.

At a minimum, the Class C operator **must be trained** to take action in response to emergency situations posing an immediate danger or threat to the public or environment. They must know who to contact and how to respond to leak detection alarms caused by spills or releases from an UST system.

The Class C operator does **NOT** need to be trained as an emergency medical technician, firefighter, or hazardous material spill cleanup specialist. They **DO** need to know how to recognize problems, how to quickly shut down the fuel-dispensing system, and who to call (e.g., fire, police, ambulance, facility management personnel) in emergency situations.

The Class C operator must be trained by a Class A or Class B operator **BEFORE** assuming responsibility for the tank system. Proof of training must be kept at the facility and produced during North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality inspections.

At a minimum, the Class C operator should be trained on:

- What is a reportable spill or release?
- Fuel Pump Emergency Shut-offs: Location(s) and Usage
- Leak Detection Console: Warnings, Alarms and Response to those alarms
- Responding to Spills: Who to Call
- Responding to Spills: Absorbents – Locations, Use and Disposal
- Recognizing potential problems with the UST system (e.g., nozzle not shutting off properly, leaky dispenser hose, strong gasoline smell from a dispenser, etc.)