



## **DISPOSAL OF WASTEWATER FROM UST CONTAINMENT SUMP INTEGRITY TESTING**

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
Division of Waste Management - Underground Storage Tank Program  
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Rev: 3/2020

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Containment sumps are liquid tight structures designed to temporarily contain leaks or spills in underground storage tank systems. Integrity testing of sumps ensures that they are liquid tight. Water used to test the sumps is considered commercial waste in North Dakota and must be properly managed. It cannot be disposed in a storm water system.

Before the sump is tested, all liquid and debris must be removed. Residual petroleum adhering to the equipment or sump must be wiped clean. Water used to test a sump can be reused to test another sump to reduce the amount of wastewater that requires proper management. Any petroleum sheen on the water will need to be removed with a petroleum absorbent pad or ran through an oil/water separator.

After the sump has been tested and any petroleum sheen on the wastewater is removed, the wastewater must be managed in one of the following methods:

1. The wastewater can be disposed in the sanitary sewer in municipalities that allow it. You will need to contact the local publicly owned treatment works (POTW) authorities for approval.
2. The wastewater can be disposed in an approved septic tank-drain field system (Class V Underground Waste Disposal Systems). The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program in North Dakota regulates systems that dispose of any type of commercial or industrial wastes in this manner. It will need to be determined if the septic system can manage this type and volume of wastewater. Contact the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality at 701-328-5210 for more information regarding Class V Underground Waste Disposal Systems.
3. The wastewater can be containerized and transported to facilities that can process the wastewater.
4. In cases where the wastewater cannot be disposed of in the sanitary sewer or septic tank-drain field system, the wastewater may be disposed of on the ground with the following conditions:
  - a. Prior approval is given by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Underground Storage Tank Program; and
  - b. The wastewater does not have a petroleum sheen; and
  - c. The wastewater is disposed in an area on the tank owner's property where the water readily absorbs into the ground, does not run off, and does not run into any storm sewer systems or surface water, and does not run into adjacent property.

For more information concerning these guidelines or underground storage tank rules, contact the North Dakota Underground Storage Tank Program at 701-328-5166.