In 1988, federal regulations governing underground storage tanks (USTs) went into effect. The new regulations contain requirements for UST systems concerning leak detection, corrosion protection, spill/overfill prevention, and financial responsibility. The regulations apply to USTs storing either petroleum or certain hazardous chemicals.

Some tanks are excluded from federal and state regulations in North Dakota such as farm or residential tanks, heating oil tanks and septic tanks. Farm or residential tanks are only excluded from federal and state regulations if they are less than 1,100 gallons and are used for storing motor fuel for noncommercial purposes.

If a farm or residential tank is greater than 1,100 gallons, it is regulated by both federal and state rules. These rules require:

- The tank to be registered with the State of North Dakota;
- Measures to be taken to detect leaks, prevent corrosion, and prevent spills and overfills in the tanks and piping; and
- The owner to provide sufficient financial responsibility in the event that the tank leaks.

Other rules also apply to regulated UST systems. For more information on UST rules and regulations, you may contact the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Waste Management or refer to the above-noted phone number and website or contact:

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Waste Management
Underground Storage Tank Program
4201 Normandy St.
Bismarck, ND 58503-1324
Phone: 701.328.5166
Fax: 701.328.5200
Website: https://deq.nd.gov/wm