

§563. Registration and inspection of underground oil storage tanks and piping

1. Prohibition on unregistered tanks. The following prohibition on unregistered tanks applies.

A. A person may not install, or cause to be installed, a new or replacement underground oil storage facility unless the facility is registered in accordance with subsection 2 at least 10 business days but no more than 2 years prior to installation and the registration fee is paid in accordance with subsection 4. If compliance with this time requirement is impossible due to an emergency situation, the owner or operator of the facility at which the new or replacement facility is to be installed shall inform the commissioner as soon as the emergency becomes known.

The owner or operator shall make available a copy of the facility's registration at that facility for inspection by the commissioner and authorized municipal officials. [PL 2011, c. 206, §14 (AMD).]

B. No person may operate, maintain or store oil in an underground oil storage facility after May 1, 1986, unless each underground oil storage tank at that facility is registered with the commissioner. [PL 1989, c. 890, Pt. A, §40 (AFF); PL 1989, c. 890, Pt. B, §132 (AMD).]
[PL 2011, c. 206, §14 (AMD).]

2. Information required for registration. The owner or operator of an underground oil storage facility shall provide the commissioner with the following information on a form in triplicate to be developed and provided by the commissioner; one copy to be submitted to the commissioner, one copy to be promptly submitted upon completion to the municipality and one copy to be retained by the owner or operator:

A. The name, address and telephone number of the owner of the underground oil storage tank to be registered; [PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §22 (RPR).]

B. The name, address and telephone number of the person having responsibility for the operation of the tank to be registered; [PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §22 (RPR).]

C. The location of the facility; [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD).]

D. [PL 2001, c. 626, §13 (RP).]

E. The size of the tank to be registered; [PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §22 (RPR).]

F. The type of tank or tanks and piping at the facility and the type of product stored or contained in the tank or tanks and piping; [PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §22 (RPR).]

G. For new, replacement or retrofitted facilities, the name of the installer, the expected date of installation or retrofit, the nature of any emergency pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A, if applicable, and a description or plan showing the layout of the facility or tank, including the form of secondary containment, other forms of leak detection or equipment to be installed pursuant to section 564, subsection 1, paragraph A and, when applicable, the method of retrofitting leak detection pursuant to section 564, subsection 1 or 1-A; [PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §22 (RPR).]

H. For existing facilities and tanks, the best estimate of the age and type of tank or tanks and underground piping at the facility; and [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD).]

I. For underground oil storage tanks, the expiration date of tank manufacturer's warranty. [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD).]
[PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD).]

3. Amended registration required. The owner or operator of an underground oil storage facility shall file an amended registration form with the commissioner immediately upon any change in the information required pursuant to subsection 2, including any modifications to the facility or a change

of ownership. The board may establish, by rule, a late registration period not to exceed 10 business days in duration. A fee may not be charged for filing an amended registration.

[PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §23 (RPR).]

4. Registration fees. The owner or operator of an underground oil storage facility shall pay a fee to the department of \$100 for each tank registered under this section located at the facility, except that single family homeowners are not required to pay a fee for a tank at their personal residence. The fee must be paid at the time the tank is first registered and every 3 years thereafter upon receipt of a bill from the department. The department may prorate the fee as appropriate.

[PL 2009, c. 121, §10 (AMD).]

5. Penalty for failure to submit amended registration. Any person who has not submitted an amended registration form in accordance with subsection 3 shall pay a late fee of \$100. This does not preclude the commissioner from seeking civil penalties from any person who fails to register a facility or tank.

[PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §24 (RPR).]

6. Providing notice. Prior to the sale or transfer of any real estate where an underground oil storage facility is located, the owner of the real estate shall file a written notice with the purchaser or transferee. The notice must disclose the existence of the underground oil storage facility, its registration number or numbers, the real estate where the facility is located, whether or not the facility has been abandoned in place pursuant to section 566-A and that the facility is subject to regulation, including registration requirements, by the department under this subchapter.

[PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD).]

7. Supplier notification requirement. Any person who sells a tank intended to be used as an underground oil storage tank shall notify the purchaser in writing of the purchaser's obligations under this section.

[PL 1989, c. 865, §7 (NEW).]

8. Certification of proper installation. Owners of new and replacement facilities shall ensure that the installer provides certification to the commissioner, within 30 days of completion of installation, that the materials and methods used comply with the applicable installation standards of this subchapter.

[PL 1989, c. 865, §7 (NEW).]

9. Annual compliance inspection. The owner of an underground oil storage facility is responsible for ensuring that each underground oil storage tank and associated piping at the facility are inspected annually for compliance with the requirements of this subchapter and any rules adopted under this subchapter and the requirements for gasoline vapor control in rules adopted under section 585-A. The owner shall correct or arrange for correction of any deficiencies detected during the inspection as necessary to bring the facility into compliance with these requirements.

A. The owner of an underground oil storage facility shall submit annual inspection results to the department on or before July 1, 2003 and on or before July 1st annually thereafter. The results must be recorded on a form provided by the department and must include a certification statement, signed by an underground oil storage tank inspector or underground oil storage tank installer certified by the Board of Underground Oil Tank Installers under Title 32, chapter 104-A, that each tank and associated piping have been inspected and any deficiencies discovered during the inspection have been corrected. The owner shall submit the completed form to the department no more than 30 days after the date on which the inspection was completed. [PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (AMD).]

B. [PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (RP).]

C. [PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (RP).]

D. [PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (RP).]

E. Beginning July 1, 2010 and at least once every 3 years thereafter, the annual inspection of each tank must be performed by a certified underground oil storage tank inspector or underground oil storage tank installer who is not the tank owner or operator, an employee of the tank owner or operator or a person having daily on-site responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the tank. [PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2007, c. 534, §1 (AMD).]

10. Aboveground oil storage tanks with underground piping. An owner of an aboveground oil storage tank with underground piping is subject to the requirements of this subsection.

A. Effective January 1, 2007, a person may not store motor fuel in an aboveground oil storage facility that has underground piping without first having registered the facility with the commissioner in the same manner as is required of underground oil storage facilities under subsections 2 to 5. [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (NEW).]

B. Prior to the sale or transfer of an aboveground oil storage tank that has underground piping, the owner shall notify the purchaser or transferee in writing of the existence of the underground piping and the requirement that the tank be registered with the commissioner if the tank will be used to store motor fuel. [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (NEW).]

C. The owner of an aboveground oil storage tank used to store motor fuel shall ensure that, within 30 days after completion of installation of underground piping associated with the tank, the installer certifies in writing to the commissioner that the materials and methods used comply with the applicable installation standards of this subchapter. [PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (NEW).]

D. The owner of an aboveground oil storage tank used to store motor fuel shall ensure that underground piping associated with the tank is inspected annually for compliance with the requirements of this subchapter and the requirements for gasoline vapor control in rules adopted under section 585-A. The owner shall submit annual inspection results to the department on or before July 1, 2007 and on or before July 1st annually thereafter. The results must be recorded on a form provided by the department and must include a certification statement, signed by an underground oil storage tank inspector or an underground oil storage tank installer certified by the Board of Underground Oil Tank Installers under Title 32, chapter 104-A that the piping has been inspected and any deficiencies discovered during the inspection have been corrected. The owner shall submit the completed form to the department no more than 30 days after the date on which the inspection was completed. The requirements of this paragraph may be enforced in the same manner as is provided for underground oil storage facilities under subsection 9. [PL 2007, c. 534, §2 (AMD).]

This subsection does not apply to tanks or piping at an oil terminal facility as defined in section 542, subsection 7. Until July 1, 2009, this subsection does not apply to tanks or piping at a facility used to store diesel fuel.

[PL 2007, c. 534, §2 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 496, §A14 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 626, §2 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 402, §A199 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 491, §§6-9 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 865, §§3-7 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 890, §§A40,B131-135 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 66, §§A22-24 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 231, §17 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 626, §§12,13 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 491, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 534, §§1, 2 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 655, §4 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 121, §10 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 206, §14 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. The

text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.