

The Broward County Environmental Protection & Growth Management Department together with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection welcomes the Storage Tank Facility Owner or Operator, to this informative video designed to assist in preparing for an inspection of your Aboveground Storage Tank system.

Preparing your facility is one of the most important steps in making your business ready for an aboveground storage tank inspection. A well-managed aboveground storage tank system will save time, money and you will feel better knowing that your system is in compliance with all applicable State Storage Tank Systems' regulations.

The most important part of the inspection is setting aside the time to meet with the inspector and review the necessary paperwork and answer questions. As a rule, set aside about 45 to 60 minutes per tank. This allows the inspector to review paperwork and inspect all the necessary components of the storage tank system. Let's look at the key pre-inspection steps.

- Department will contact you to arrange for a convenient time (set aside 45 to 60 minutes per tank)
- You or your designee must provide inspection access to equipment (Department personnel are not allowed to open or operate equipment). Equipment secured by a key must be accessible for inspection.
- You must have the necessary documentation ready.

*Inspector begins to set up the appointment for a site visit*

You or your designee must provide inspection access to equipment. The Department will contact you to arrange for a convenient time.

*Inspector enters scene and introduces himself*

You or your designee must provide inspection access to your storage tank system. You will want to provide proper barricading and/or signage that indicate caution to the general public in the areas being inspected. It is the responsibility of the Facility Operator to arrange for a capable person to open Pump, Fill, and Release Detection sumps and dispensers. Remember, the designated person must have a complete set of keys to access any equipment that is secured with a lock. Upon conclusion of the visual inspection, the system's open ports must be secured once again.

**All storage tank systems in the State of Florida must have secondary containment. An aboveground storage tank (AST) will either be double-walled or be installed within a dike field area or other non- permeable structure which affords secondary containment. Note: high viscosity grade 5 and 6 residual oils or Bunker C fuel are exempt from secondary containment requirements.**

**Most of the components of your Aboveground Storage Tank System are directly visible. Other components such as piping and transition sumps may be partially or completely hidden from everyday view. Let's look at what a typical inspection consists of and the important parts of your Aboveground Storage Tank System.**

**Tank Farm and its Components:**

- 1. Secondary Containment**
- 2. The Pump, Piping, and Piping Sump and/or Transition Sump**
- 3. The Fill Box/Spill Containment Device**
- 4. The Sensor Probes (Automatic Tank Gauging or ATG, High-level Alarm and Interstitial)**
- 5. The Dispensers**
- 6. The Venting System**
- 7. Electronic Monitoring**
- 8. Cathodic Protection System (if present)**

**Secondary Containment: Remember, all storage tank systems in the State of Florida must have secondary containment. An aboveground storage tank (AST) will either be double-walled or installed within a dike field area or other non- permeable structure which affords secondary containment. This includes dispenser liners, piping sumps and double-walled tanks and piping systems or single walled tanks that are contained within a liner or impervious structure. The secondary containment must contain at least 110% of the largest single-wall tank within the dike field area.**

### **“The Pump, Piping, and Piping Sump and/or Transition Sump”**

**The Pump, Piping, and Piping Sump and/or Transition Sump where visible will be inspected for:**

- 1. The test boot is mechanically sound with no tears.**
- 2. The line leak detector system (on the submersible pump, if present) is properly maintained.**
- 3. The anti-siphon valve (electronic or mechanical) must be present where applicable.**
- 4. The Sensor probe or release detection components are properly installed and operational.**
- 5. The piping, piping sump and/or transition sump are dry, free from corrosion and accumulated debris where applicable.**

**Remember, the designated person must have a complete set of keys to access any equipment that is secured with a lock.**

### **“Fill Box/Spill Containment Device”**

**The Fill Box/Spill Containment Device, Remote Spill Bucket contains the fill port and release valve (if present). The inspector will examine closely verifying that:**

- 1. The Spill Bucket Assembly is mechanically sound (no holes or signs of corrosion).**
- 2. The Fill Box Cover is labeled/color-coded per the tank’s contents.**
- 3. The Fill Cap gasket is in good condition.**
- 4. The Spill Bucket is dry and free from liquid or debris. Any liquid shall be removed within 72 hours.**
- 5. Overfill protection is properly installed and operational. This includes mechanical gauges; overfill shutoff valves or High-level audible and/or visual alarms.**

**“The Sensor Probes (Automatic Tank Gauging or ATG, High-level Alarm and Interstitial)”**

**The Sensor Probes, if present (piping & tank interstice), monitor your Storage Tank System. The inspector will examine closely, verifying that:**

- 1. The probes are properly maintained**
- 2. The electrical connections are intact**

**“Stage I Vapor Recovery System”**

**No owner/operator of a gasoline dispensing facility shall transfer gasoline from a cargo tank into a stationary aboveground storage tank system unless equipped with submerged filling and Stage I Vapor Recovery, as required.”**

**When inspecting an aboveground gasoline tank equipped with Stage-I Vapor Recovery, the inspector may examine closely, verifying that:**

- 1. The dry-break poppet is functioning properly by activating the spring-loaded mechanism.**

**“The Dispensers”**

**The inspector will examine the dispensers closely, verifying that:**

- 1. Dispenser Pan has no corrosion, liquid, or debris.**
- 2. Shear Valves are free from corrosion and anchored correctly and installed at the proper position.**
- 3. Release Detection Probe, if present, is positioned correctly.**
- 4. All Dispenser Boots are intact.**
- 5. Hanging Hoses and Nozzles have no tears, rips and are not leaking.**

## **“The Venting System”**

**The inspector will observe the vents, verifying that:**

- 1. Vent caps or pressure/vacuum valves are properly installed where required.**

**Remember, upon conclusion of the visual inspection, the designated person must secure any open ports once again.**

**Recall, the designated person must have a complete set of keys to access any equipment that is secured with a Lock.**

## **“Electronic Monitoring (where applicable)”**

**The inspector will examine your electronic monitoring system:**

- 1. Operator will be asked to demonstrate system functionality by printing a status report: product levels, interstitial release detection status for both tank and piping.**
- 2. Operator will also demonstrate testing of the visual and audible alarms.**

## **“Cathodic Protection”**

**The operator will demonstrate that the Cathodic Protection system is functioning properly.**

**For impressed current systems, the operator will provide access to the rectifier and demonstrate that the voltage and amperage are within the design parameters.**

***Inspector begins sit down review of records in final part of inspection***

## **“Records Review”**

The inspector will ask to see the following records: You must have the necessary documentation ready. If records are not kept at the facility, they shall be made available upon five working days’ notice. Accurate, up to date, legible documents are vital to demonstrate that you are fulfilling your responsibilities as an owner or operator. The Compliance Assistance Inspector will review each of the following documents to verify they are up to date and represent that you have fulfilled all required tests and maintenance records.

- 1. FDEP Registration Placard**
- 2. Financial Responsibility; Declaration Page (insurance policy)**
- 3. Release Detection (RD) Equipment Operability Tests (where applicable)**
- 4. Equipment Test Results (where applicable)**
- 5. Equipment repair/replacement & maintenance logs**
- 6. Equipment inspection, Cathodic Protection (impressed current) and RD monitoring logs**
- 7. Release Detection Response Level (or RDRL) Statement**
- 8. Storage Tank System Registration Information**

Let’s briefly look at each document.

### **“FDEP Registration Placard”**

The FDEP Registration Placard is issued to all registered owners of aboveground or underground storage tanks that store vehicular fuel, pollutants or hazardous substances regulated under Chapters 62-761 and 762, FL Administrative Code, and aboveground compression vessels and mineral acid storage tank systems regulated under Chapter 62-762, FL Administrative Code. Remember, that fuel cannot be delivered to your facility without a valid FDEP Registration Placard.

### **“Proof of Financial Responsibility”**

Please have available proof of Financial Responsibility or your insurance policy’s Declaration Page showing all currently covered tanks in case of a petroleum release or spill, to provide for a third-party cleanup.

**“Release Detection (RD) Equipment Operability Tests (where applicable)”**

Release Detection Equipment must be annually evaluated to ensure proper functioning. These tests (where applicable) include Line Leak Detection (pressurized lines); Interstice Monitoring and Overfill Protection.

**“Equipment Test Results (Applicable if you have electronic monitoring)”**

Equipment Test Results are the results of required periodic integrity testing of tanks, lines, dispensers and piping as well as Cathodic Protection. Please ensure that you have a legible copy for review.

**“Equipment repair/replacement & maintenance records”**

All required maintenance and equipment repair must be documented and records made available for review.

**“Equipment inspection and RD monitoring logs”**

All required visual inspections and release detection performance must be documented and monitoring logs made available for review.

**“Release Detection Response Level (or RDRL) Statement”**

The RDRL Statement is a document that you prepare to help you initiate an investigation to determine if an incident, release or discharge has occurred. Depending on your type of storage tank system both Internal and External Release Detection Methods may be employed.

**“Storage Tank System Registration information”**

Storage Tank System Registration information must be current. The storage tank operator should be familiar with the contents stored in each tank on site. A general statement listing the tanks and current products contained therein is valuable when the inspector inquires as to the number and kinds of products in your storage tank system. The Department must be notified of any changes in the Storage Tank System via a registration form.

**We hope this brief video on *Preparing For an Aboveground Storage Tank Facility Inspection* will assist you in getting your facility ready for a Compliance Assistance Inspection. For more information please visit FDEP's Storage Tank Compliance Website.**

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/tanks/>