

Storage Tanks Program

DEP's Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields is responsible for policies and implementation of the Storage Tank Program. The program provides for the health and safety of the citizens of Pennsylvania by protecting Pennsylvania's air, land, and water from storage tank releases. The program staff work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent releases from storage tanks and restore our natural resources when releases do occur. Under the Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act, which became effective on Aug. 5, 1989, the Storage Tank Program is responsible for developing and implementing regulations for aboveground and underground storage tanks. Specific program responsibilities include the following: registration and permitting of regulated aboveground and underground storage tank systems and collection of annual tank registration fees; certification of individuals and companies that perform tank inspection and tank handling (installation, modification, removal) activities; and establishment of technical and operational standards for aboveground and underground storage tank systems and development of procedures for reporting of releases and corrective action by tank owners.

The Storage Tank Program encompasses two divisions within DEP. The [Division of Storage Tanks](#) manages the statewide program to regulate aboveground and underground storage tanks under Pennsylvania's Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act. The Site Remediation Division (SRD) develops regulations, policy and guidance for the storage tanks corrective action program and the state and federal Superfund programs. The SRD also procures and administers statewide contracts to perform site assessment, design, interim response and other actions to respond to petroleum and hazardous substance releases.

The Storage Tank Program regulates over 17,700 aboveground storage tanks and approximately 22,100 underground storage tanks located at over 12,500 facilities in Pennsylvania. From July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2017, DEP staff and DEP certified third-party inspectors performed over 13,900 inspections at regulated storage tank facilities.

In FY 2016-2017, the Storage Tank Program completed 306 cleanups at regulated storage tank sites. Under the Environmental Cleanup and Brownfield's Voluntary Cleanup, Hazardous Sites Response, and Storage Tank Corrective Action Programs, 785 sites were cleaned up in FY 16-17.