



Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Program: Information for Farmers

This fact sheet will assist you, as a farmer, in understanding your obligations under the SPCC Program.

What is SPCC?

The goal of the SPCC program is to prevent oil spills into waters of the United States and adjoining shorelines. Oil spills can cause injuries to people and damage to the environment. A key element of this program calls for farmers and other facilities to have an oil spill prevention plan, called an **SPCC Plan**. These Plans can help farmers prevent oil spills which can damage water resources needed for farming operations.

You need an SPCC Plan if:

An oil spill from your farm could reach water and you store oil (such as diesel, gasoline, hydraulic oil, lube oil, crop oil or vegetable oil, etc.) in: Aboveground quantities of more than 1,320 gallons; or Completely buried tanks with more than 42,000 gallons of oil.

You do not need an SPCC Plan if:

You store less than 1,320 gallons of oil aboveground or less than 42,000 gallons below ground.

If my farm is covered by SPCC, what should I do?

The SPCC program requires you to prepare and implement an SPCC Plan. If you already have a Plan, maintain it. If you do not have a Plan, you should prepare and implement one. EPA has three Tier categories for SPCC Plans. The owner or operator of either a Tier I or Tier II qualified facility may be eligible to self-certify the facility's SPCC Plan.

Your farm is considered a Tier I qualified facility if your farm has a total oil storage capacity between 1,320 and 10,000 gallons in aboveground containers, no individual aboveground oil storage containers has a capacity greater than 5,000 U. S. gallons, and the farm has a good spill history (as described in the SPCC rule). Tier I qualified facilities are subject to streamlined requirements for failure analysis, bulk storage secondary containment, and overfill prevention.

Your farm is considered a Tier II qualified facility, if the total oil storage capacity between 1,320 and 10,000 gallons in aboveground containers, the farm has a good spill history, **AND** has an individual aboveground oil storage container with a capacity greater than 5,000 U.S. gallons.

If you have more than 10,000 gallons of aboveground storage capacity you are a Tier III facility and will need a **Professional Engineer** to review and certify your SPCC Plan.

When should I prepare and implement a Plan?

Farms must prepare and use a new plan or amend their existing Plan by **May 10, 2013**.

What type information will I need to prepare an SPCC Plan for my farm?

- A site plan marked with the location and contents of each container of oil product
- A list of the oil containers at the farm by parcel (including the contents and location of each container);
- A brief description of the procedures that you will use to prevent oil spills. For example, steps you use to transfer fuel from a storage tank to your farm vehicles that reduce the possibility of a fuel spill;
- A brief description of the measures you installed to prevent oil from reaching water;
- A brief description of the measures you will use to contain and cleanup an oil spill to water; and
- A list of emergency contacts and first responders.

**Contact your local MAEAP Technician to help you put a plan together
Or visit www.asmark.org/myspcc for online assistance with
Above ground storage at Tier I or Tier II facilities**