In case of a release

If a release from an AST system is suspected, the owner or operator must report the release to the DENR within 24 hours at (605) 773-3296. Take immediate steps to stop the release and ensure that there is no threat to the safety of persons in the vicinity of the release. It is not necessary to notify DENR of aboveground overfills of petroleum that are less than 25 gallons if the release can be contained and cleaned up within 24 hours.

A regulated AST must be closed if:
- It has been out of use for more than 24 months;
- The AST system does not meet state standards;
- The AST is leaking.

How do I close AST systems

- Call DENR at least 30 days before closing the tank.
- Any time an AST system is closed, a site assessment must be performed to determine if the tank has leaked.
- In most cases soil sample will be needed for laboratory analysis.

For more information

Call the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Ground Water Quality Program, 523 East Capital Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, Phone number (605) 773-3296, OR Visit our web page http://denr.sd.gov/tanks
What is an aboveground storage tank (AST)

According to the *Codified Law of South Dakota, chapter 34A-2-100*, aboveground storage tank (AST) systems are defined as aboveground stationary storage tank or combination of tanks, including connected piping which stores an accumulation of regulated substances such as petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof which is liquid at standard conditions of temperature and pressure.

Stationary tanks are those that do not move, such as tanks fixed permanently in place on foundation, racks, cradle, or stilts, or on the ground.

Portable tanks that are intended to be moved off the property are not considered regulated. The term does not apply to small volume containers such as 55-gallon drums.

What aboveground storage tanks are exempt

The following aboveground storage tanks are exempt/excluded/or deferred from regulation:

- Any farm or residential tank used for storing motor fuels for noncommercial purposes;
- Any tank used for storing heating oil or motor fuels for consumptive use on the premises where stored;
- Any septic tank;
- Any pipeline facility, including gathering lines, regulated under the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968;
- Any surface impoundment, pit, pond or lagoon;
- Any storm water or wastewater collection system;
- Any flow-through process tank;
- Any liquid trap or associated gathering lines directly related to oil and gas production and gathering operations;
- Any storage tank situated in an underground area such as a basement, cellar, mine working, drift, shaft or tunnel if the storage tank is situated upon or above the surface of the floor;
- Any pipes connected to any tank which is exempted in this subdivision; and
- Any tanks used for storing pesticides regulated under chapter 38-21, except those regulated pursuant to Subtitle I of the Federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (Public Law 98-616).

Plans and specifications for new AST systems are required

To ensure new tank systems are installed according to state regulations and meet DENR requirements, plans and specifications must be submitted to the Ground Water Quality Program for review and approval at least 30 days before the tanks are installed.

Protection against releases

To protect against releases all regulated AST systems with a capacity of 250,000 gallons or less must meet one of the following conditions:

- Include a secondary containment system capable of holding 110% of the largest tank volume;
- Double walled tanks;
- Meet performance standards and overfill protection; OR
- Have an approved method of release detection system.

* Tank systems with total capacities greater than 250,000 gallons must have secondary containment, leak detection, overfill protection and meet performance standards.

Protection against corrosion

All aboveground storage tanks and associated piping that are in contact with the ground must be protected from corrosion, either by electrical means or through the use of non-corrodible materials. Each electrical corrosion system, such as sacrificial anodes or impressed current, must have a test station, which enables the owner or operator to check the adequacy of the protection.