

UST Closure Requirements

You may close your UST temporarily or permanently.

Temporary Closure Requirements:

You may temporarily close your UST by following these requirements:

- ❖ Continue to maintain and monitor corrosion protection systems.
- ❖ Continue to maintain financial responsibility.
- ❖ No later than October 13, 2018, your operators must be trained.
- ❖ If your temporarily closed UST is not empty, you must also:
 - Continue to monitor for leaks by performing release detection.
 - Begin performing monthly walkthrough inspections for your release detection no later than October 13, 2018.
 - Begin performing annual inspections and tests of release detection equipment no later than October 13, 2018.
 - Begin performing three year containment sump testing if using the containment sump for interstitial monitoring of the piping no later than October 13, 2018.
- ❖ If a release is discovered, quickly stop the release, notify your implementing agency, and take appropriate action to clean up the site.
- ❖ If the UST remains temporarily closed for more than three months, leave vent lines open, but cap and secure all other lines, pumps, manways, and ancillary equipment.

USTs in temporary closure are not required to meet the following requirements:

- ❖ Spill prevention equipment and periodic testing.
- ❖ Overfill prevention equipment and periodic inspections.
- ❖ Empty USTs do not require:
 - Release detection.
 - Annual release detection testing and inspections.
 - Monthly walkthrough inspections.
 - Three year containment sump testing.

An UST is considered empty if no more than one inch of residue is present or not more than 0.3 percent by weight of the total capacity of the UST system remains in the system. After 12 months of temporary closure, you must permanently close your UST if the tank does not meet the corrosion protection requirements. You can indefinitely keep your UST closed temporarily, if it meets the requirements for new or upgraded USTs, except that spill and overfill requirements do not have to be met, and you meet the requirements above for temporarily closed USTs.

Permanent Closure Requirements:

If you decide for any reason to close your UST permanently, follow these requirements for permanent closure:

- ❖ You must notify your implementing agency 30 days before you permanently close your UST.
- ❖ You must determine if contamination from your UST is present in the surrounding environment. If there is contamination, you will have to take the appropriate actions.
- ❖ You can either remove the UST from the ground or leave it in the ground. In both cases, the tank must be emptied and cleaned by removing all liquids, dangerous vapor levels, and accumulated sludge. These potentially very hazardous actions need to be carried out carefully by following standard safety practices. See www.epa.gov/ust/resourcesowners-and-operators#closing for a safe closure standard. If you leave the UST in the ground, you must also either fill it with a harmless, chemically inactive solid, like sand or cement, or close it in place in a manner approved by your implementing agency. Your implementing agency can help you decide how best to close your UST so that it meets local requirements for closure.