Underground Storage Tank (UST) Program

ADEQ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Arizona has updated its UST rules to align with those of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The new rules go into effect on Jan. 1, 2020 in the Arizona Administrative Code (AAC). Following is a summary of the rule updates. **Please review the regulations for the detailed requirements at: https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2019/43/contents.pdf#page=17**

Emergency Power Generators (AAC R18-12-210)	Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, newly installed UST systems that store fuel solely for emergency power generators must meet all requirements of the UST regulations at the time of installation. On or before March 1, 2020, UST systems installed on or before Jan. 1, 2020 that store fuel solely for emergency power generators must meet release detection requirements.
Plan Review Process (AAC R18-12-219, AAC R18-12-221, and AAC R18-12-271)	Rules clarify the plan review requirements and process for UST installations, modifications, and permanent closures.
Secondary Containment (AAC R18-12-220)	Rules include requirement from statute that all tanks and piping installed or replaced after Jan. 1, 2009 must be secondarily contained and use interstitial monitoring, new dispensers installed or replaced after Jan. 1, 2009 must have under-dispenser containment installed.
Overfill Prevention (AAC R18-12-220 and AAC R18-12-235)	Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, ball float valves (flow restrictors) will no longer be an option for new USTs or as replacements when a ball float valve fails. Owners must install a different type of overfill prevention device, such as a shut off valve in fill pipes or alarms. Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, overfill prevention for newly installed UST systems must be inspected at installation. On or before March 1, 2020, the initial functionality test must be conducted on overfill prevention devices for UST systems in use on or before Jan. 1, 2020. The functionality testing must be conducted every 3 years after the initial test.
Corrosion Protection (AAC R18-12-221)	Rules clarify that tanks and piping that are not protected against corrosion will need to be permanently closed. A tank owner/operator must permanently close any tank with an internal liner that is no longer performing in accordance with the original design specifications if the liner cannot be repaired in accordance with industry standards.
Compatibility (AAC R18-12-232)	Tank owners will need to notify ADEQ at least 30 days before storing biofuels containing greater than 10% ethanol, greater than 20% biodiesel, or any blend of isobutanol and must demonstrate that their equipment is compatible with the biofuels. Compatibility documentation must be maintained for as long as the UST system stores any fuel.
Repairs Allowed (AAC R18-12-233)	Rule clarifies that repaired equipment must be tested within 30 days following the repair. Repair records must be kept until the UST system is permanently closed or undergoes a change-in-service.
Record Keeping (AAC R18-12-234)	Rules include records created as a result of new testing requirements and clarifies current record keeping requirements. Allows for electronic or paper record keeping.
Spill Prevention and Containment	Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, spill prevention and containment sumps (including under-dispenser containment) for newly installed UST systems must be inspected at installation.

Questions? Contact us at ustaz@azdeq.gov or 602-771-4196

Publication No.: C-19-15

Sumps (AAC R18-12-235)	On or before March 1, 2020, the initial tightness testing must be conducted on spill prevention devices (buckets) and secondary containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring for UST systems in use on or before Jan. 1, 2020. Tightness testing must be conducted every 3 years after the initial test, unless the spill prevention equipment and containment sumps are double walled and the integrity of both walls is periodically monitored.
Walkthrough Inspections (AAC R18-12-236)	Every 30 days, tank owners/operators must inspect for damage and proper operation of spill buckets, fill pipes and caps, interstitial areas of double-walled spill buckets, and release detection equipment. Note: If deliveries occur at intervals greater than every 30 days, the spill buckets only need to be checked prior to each delivery. Annually, tank owners/operators must inspect all containment sumps (including under-dispenser containment), interstitial areas of double-walled containment sumps, and handheld release detection equipment for damage, operability, and leaks (if applicable).
Operator Training (AAC R18-12-237)	Rules to include and clarify training program topic requirements from statute. Rule clarifies the acceptable sources of training (provided by ADEQ, third-party, etc.) and formats (online, in-person, etc.). Rule clarifies when operators need to be retrained (every 3 years, switching operator classifications, non-compliance).
Release Detection (AAC R18-12-240, AAC R18-12-243)	Rules clarify that release detection equipment must be tested for proper operation annually. Rules clarify that tank owners must annually test the operation of electronic automatic line leak detectors by simulating a leak and ensuring the leak detector can detect leaks of three gallons per hour at 10 psi within one hour.
Suspected Releases (AAC R18-12-251)	Rule clarifies exemptions for reporting a suspected release, including systems with secondary containment. Rule clarifies tightness testing requirements for systems with secondary containment. Suspected releases must be investigated within 60 days of discovery or release notification, whichever is earlier.
Temporary Closure (AAC R18-12-270)	A UST system that does not meet new installation or upgrade standards and has been temporarily closed for more than 12 months must be permanently closed. A standard or limited extension of temporary closure must be requested prior to the expiration of the 12-month period.
Airport Hydrant Fuel Distribution Systems and Field-Constructed USTs (AAC R18-12-951 and 952)	Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, newly installed airport hydrant fuel distribution systems and field-constructed tanks must meet all the requirements for these systems at the time of installation. By Jan. 1, 2020, airport hydrant fuel distribution systems and field-constructed tanks installed on or before Jan. 1, 2020 must meet the requirements for release reporting, response, and investigation, closure, notification, and financial responsibility. On or before March 1, 2020, airport hydrant fuel distribution systems and field-constructed tanks installed on or before Jan. 1, 2020 must meet the requirements for release detection, upgrade requirements, general operating requirements, and operator training.
Other Notable Changes	New and updated definitions (AAC R18-12-101) Updated UST system codes of practice and performance standards (AAC R18-12-281) Financial responsibility documentation must meet the requirements of the updated EPA regulation (AAC Title 18, Chapter 12, Article 3)