

Protect Your Water Supply From Outdoor Fuel Tanks

Falling snow or ice from roofs, thaws, and flooding can damage above-ground fuel storage tanks and the piping connecting the tank to a burner or boiler within the building. Damage to outdoor fuel tanks or piping can release fuel oil, diesel, or other petroleum based products that pose a potential threat to drinking water supplies. To protect groundwater and other sources of drinking water from potential contamination, DES in partnership with home heating oil supply companies



has a limited number of galvanized steel protectors for tanks and piping at no cost. **If you are interested in obtaining a tank protector, please contact your oil supplier first.**

If your oil supplier does not have any tank protectors, contact Jack Chwasciak, DES Oil Remediation and Compliance Bureau, at (603) 271-3577 or jack.chwasciak@des.nh.gov.

Depending on the amount spilled and the water resources impacted, clean up and remediation can be expensive. It is vital to clean up spills as quickly as possible to minimize the cost and impact to groundwater or other water resources. Information on maintaining above ground storage tanks for home heating oil is available online at www.des.nh.gov.

- Self-Inspection Checklist for Basement and Outdoor Home Heating Oil Tanks (search for “REM-6”).
- Information on Reporting an Oil Spill (search for “Reporting a Spill”).

If you experience a fuel spill, first contact your local 911 responder or fire department. Then call the DES Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section, at (603) 271-3899, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or the State Police on weekends and evenings at (603) 271-3636. •