



FACT SHEET


Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Division (ERSPD)'s Top Compliance Issues and How to Fix Them

ERSPD oversees a wide variety of programs and compliance issues that may result in violations of promulgated regulations or of the Connecticut General statutes.

The [Underground Storage Tank \(UST\) Regulations](#) recently underwent a comprehensive update, modernizing and eliminating outdated standards while providing clarity, consistency, and flexibility. The owner/operator of regulated USTs should gain an understanding of these regulations and the specifics that apply to their site/operation. Below is a list of the most common violations of the UST Regulations:

- **Failure to submit Underground Storage Tank (UST) notification information.** [Notification for USTs](#) can be submitted via [DEEP's online ezFile system](#).
- **Failure to maintain UST system records.** Owners/operators of USTs are required to collect and record daily inventory data, and record weekly reading reconciliation with delivery and dispensing records on the [Weekly Underground Storage Tank Systems Inventory Reconciliation Form](#). UST facilities need to keep system records on-site for a minimum of five years beyond the operating life of the tank system. Requirements and forms can be found on the [Underground Storage Tank Notification, Compliance & Release Prevention page](#).
- **Use of UST system beyond service life.** [RCSA 22a-449\(d\)-111\(b\)](#) provides details on [anticipated life expectancy of categories of USTs](#). As of the effective date of the UST Regulations, May 7, 2025, UST owners and operators of state and federally regulated UST Systems are not eligible to notify for coverage under the [Alternate Life Expectancy](#). Those UST owners and operators, who submitted Alternate Life Expectancy notices before May 7, 2025, can utilize such extension of life expectancy until the 10 years run or the UST system no longer meets the conditions of such notice. Note: For the USTs currently operating under an Alternate Life Expectancy notice, regulatory references in that notice, to the UST regulations, are to those UST regulations that were effective prior to May 7, 2025.
- **Failure to perform required UST releases detection testing.** [UST facilities in Connecticut](#) must be monitored for releases. Any state or federally regulated USTs installed on or after August 5, 2025, must be double-walled and use continuous interstitial monitoring of the inner and outer walls with a technology such as inert gas, liquid, or a vacuum (e.g., brine system). Double-walled USTs installed before October 1, 2003 have until May 7, 2027 to upgrade release detection to continuously monitor the interstitial space between the walls (dry space) or use continuous interstitial monitoring of the inner and outer walls with a technology such as inert gas, liquid, or a vacuum (e.g., brine system).

Promulgated in March 2022, the [Release Reporting Regulations](#) provide a clear pathway for the reporting of releases in the State of Connecticut. Despite the clear and concise presentation of the regulations and reporting timelines, violations persist. As is frequently the case, a familiarization of those regulations and the reporting requirements set forth will prevent noncompliance.

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- **Failure to comply with [Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies \(RCSA\) section 22a-450-4](#), also known as the [Release-Based Reporting Regulations](#), which require that a release of a regulated substance be reported within 1 hour after discovery of the release. **Report Spills or other Environmental Emergencies to the CT DEEP 24 hours per day at 860-424-3338 or Toll Free at 1-866-DEP-SPIL (1-866-337-7745).** Please refer to the [Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Division](#) for more information. As required by [CGS Section 22a-454](#), any clean up must be performed by a permitted spill cleanup contractor.**

Although many regulated entities are familiar with specific regulations, they should also be aware of statutory requirements as well. The most frequently cited violations via statutory reference in ERSPD are as follows.

- **Failure to comply with [CGS section 22a-427](#), which prohibits the pollution or discharge of wastes.**
- **Failure to comply with [CGS section 22a-430](#), which prohibits the discharge of pollution to waters of the State.**
- **Failure to obtain a [Spill Clean-up Contractor and Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit](#) prior to performing the above activities, constituting a violation of [CGS section 22a-454](#).** Per CGS section 22a-454(a), “No person shall engage in the business of collecting, storing or treating waste oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or hazardous wastes or of acting as a contractor to contain or remove or otherwise mitigate the effects of discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of such substance or material or waste nor shall any person, municipality or regional authority dispose of waste oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or waste solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes without a permit from the commissioner.” Any person transporting hazardous waste regulated under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; any person in the business of transporting waste oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or hazardous waste in or through the State of Connecticut; any person transporting biomedical waste or in the business of transporting biomedical waste; or any person acting as a spill contractor in the State of Connecticut must apply for a Spill Clean-Up Contractor and Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit. Applications must be submitted through [DEEP’s online ezFile system](#). Instructions and additional information can be found [here](#).
- **Failure to remediate a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) release constituting a disposal in other than a manner authorized by [CGS section 22a-467](#).** For more information on PCBs, including common uses, guides, and how to report a PCB complaint, please refer to the [DEEP PCB page](#) and the [EPA PCB information page](#).

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only based on the information available as of the date of its publication and does not represent a formal jurisdictional determination by which DEEP or any other permitting authority referenced will be bound. Information contained in this fact sheet does not represent a comprehensive list of all permit requirements potentially applicable, which in most cases can only be determined on a site-specific basis. It is intended only to provide information on permits that may be required. Refer to the most current statutes, regulations, and public acts for specific language pertaining to each permit. It is your responsibility to comply with all applicable laws. Contact DEEP (DEEP.CONCIERGE@ct.gov) with questions regarding a specific site or project.

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