






Best Management Practices for Fueling Stations




Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection


Following these best management practices (BMPs) will help reduce the environmental impacts of your operation and protect you from future liabilities. If your facility is located within an aquifer protection area, you are required by law to follow the BMPs designated by a water drop  next to them. The BMPs designated by a star  are required by underground storage tank and hazardous waste regulations.

1. Cover the fueling area with a roof or canopy to prevent stormwater runoff from washing away pollutants. The cover should not drain into the fueling area. 




A canopy over the pumps prevents stormwater washing away contaminants. The fueling area is paved with nonporous concrete.

2. Pave the fueling area with an impervious surface such as nonporous concrete. Gasoline can penetrate asphalt and reach the soil below. 
3. Install curbing or grade the area around the fueling island to prevent stormwater from flowing onto the area and becoming contaminated. 
4. Check the hoses and nozzles to make sure they are not leaking or dripping monthly. 

5. Do not clean the fueling area with water since the spilled fuel, oils and grease will contaminate nearby streams and rivers. Use dry methods like spot cleaning with absorbents or mechanical sweepers.
6. Post signs near the fuel dispensers describing what to do if there is a spill and be sure that it includes who to call in the case of an emergency. 
7. Provide a readily accessible spill kit at the site for prompt clean-up of spills. Absorbent materials like spill pads, spill booms and speedi-dri should be contained in the kit.



Example of spill kit at a fueling station.

8. Materials contaminated with fuel should be placed in a separate container that is certified to meet state or federal specifications (DOT or OSHA). Store the container in a covered secure area until it is shipped off-site for proper disposal and recycling. 

9. Store hazardous material (such as fuel stored above-ground and fuel-contaminated absorbents in storage containers) within an impermeable containment area capable of containing at least the volume of the largest container of the hazardous material present, or 10% of the total volume of the tanks/containers. Containment examples include berms, walls, specially-designed pallets, and double-walled tanks. 💧

10. Install a canopy or roof over outdoor containment areas, including over aboveground storage tanks, especially when the secondary containment is open and can catch rainwater.



This aboveground tank is double-walled which provides secondary containment. However, the installation of a canopy or roof would further protect against groundwater or surface water contamination in case of a spill during fueling.

11. Keep all information about registered underground storage tanks on file in a central location at the facility. ★

12. Check the spill bucket surrounding the fill pipe for water or debris (e.g., leaf litter, sand). If liquid petroleum does spill from the hose into the bucket during delivery, a clean spill bucket will allow for the material to be drained back into the tank monthly. ★



Example of a clean spill bucket.

Accumulated water in the spill bucket may contain residual fuel and must not be disposed of to the ground or sewer system. Place this water in a container and ship it off-site for proper disposal or recycling. Debris should be placed in a separate container, such as the container used to store other solid materials contaminated with fuel (e.g., absorbents and filters). ★



This dirty spill bucket needs to be cleaned out and the contaminated material placed in a container to be shipped off for proper disposal or recycling.

For additional fueling station requirements, go to www.ct.gov/deep/PitStops.

For information on the aquifer protection program, go to www.ct.gov/deep/aquiferprotection or call 860-424-3020.