



# Tips From Frank the Tank

## WHAT DOES OHIO LAW SAY ABOUT OWNING/OPERATING PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS?

**Failure to register tanks with the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) and to assure tanks with the Financial Assurance Fund (Fund) may result in civil and/or criminal penalties.**

In Ohio, all UST owners are required to register their USTs annually with BUSTR and to participate in the Fund to demonstrate financial responsibility. Federal and state law requires UST owners to demonstrate financial responsibility of at least \$1,000,000.

BUSTR regulates the safe operation of USTs and supervises appropriate investigations and cleanup of suspected releases from USTs to protect human health and preserve the environment for the citizens of Ohio.

The Fund provides coverage for clean up costs and third-party property and bodily injury damages associated with releases from petroleum USTs. The Petroleum UST Release Compensation Board (Board) administers the Fund. The Board assesses annual fees and issues Certificates of Coverage to all owners who pay the annual fees, demonstrate coverage for the Fund deductible, and certify their USTs are in compliance with BUSTR's regulations for the operation and maintenance of USTs.

**Complying with BUSTR regulations and acquiring Financial Assurance Fund coverage is required for the lawful ownership and operation of USTs.**

## REGISTERING PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS WITH BUSTR AND ACQUIRING COVERAGE FROM THE BOARD

**BUREAU OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK REGULATIONS (BUSTR)**  
8895 E. Main Street  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
William Hills, Bureau Chief

**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 687, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Telephone ..... 614-752-7938

Fax ..... 614-752-7942

**Registration Fees: Due by July 1 each year**  
**\$50 per tank**

**(Political Subdivisions exempt from fee)**

**(Heating oil tanks used for consumptive use on premises where stored and farm or residential tanks with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less are exempt from registration and paying fees.)**

**For more information visit**  
**[www.com.ohio.gov](http://www.com.ohio.gov)**

**PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK RELEASE COMPENSATION BOARD (BOARD)**  
4151 Executive Parkway, Suite 350  
Westerville, OH 443081  
Starr Richmond, Executive Director

**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 2280, Westerville, OH 43086

Telephone ..... 614-752-8963

Fax ..... 614-752-8397

**Annual Fees: Due by July 1 each year**  
**2017 Program Year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)**

**\$400 per tank/\$55,000 deductible**

**\$600 per tank/\$11,000 deductible**

**(only owners of six or fewer tanks may elect the reduced deductible)**

**For more information visit**  
**[www.petroboard.org](http://www.petroboard.org)**

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD**

## **What information does the Board need to document the transfer of ownership of USTs?**

When ownership of USTs changes, the following information should be submitted to the Board's office:

- a. The facility address where the transferred USTs are located;
- b. The number of USTs located at the facility;
- c. The date ownership transferred; and
- d. The name, address, and phone number of the previous and new owner.

## **When UST ownership is transferred, will coverage transfer to the new owner and can the deductible be changed?**

Yes, Fund coverage does transfer. Effective June 30, 2006, the new owner is required to pay a \$500 transfer fee per facility; pay all outstanding fees, if any; complete a statement of financial responsibility for the deductible amount of coverage with the Fund; and certify that the tanks are in compliance with BUSTR rules.

If the current coverage is at the reduced deductible (\$11,000), it will transfer to the new owner provided he owns six or fewer USTs. If the new owner owns seven or more USTs, he is not eligible for the reduced deductible and the coverage will transfer at the standard deductible of \$55,000.

However, if the current coverage is at the standard deductible and the new owner owns six or fewer USTs, the reduced deductible may be obtained by completing the items listed above and paying the full per tank fees at the rate for the reduced deductible.

## **What information does the Board need to document the installation of USTs at a facility?**

When USTs are installed at a facility, the owner may complete and submit a Tank Installation Notification Form available on the Board's website, [www.petroboard.org](http://www.petroboard.org), or submit the following information in writing to the Board:

- a. The name, address, and phone number of the owner;
- b. The facility address;
- c. The number of USTs installed;  
**(Each tank of a compartmentalized tank system counts as one tank)**
- d. The date the USTs were installed;
- e. The date product was placed in the USTs; and
- f. A copy of the signed installation permit or the initial product delivery receipts.

## **What information does the Board need to document the removal of USTs from a facility?**

The owner may mail or fax a copy of a completed Tank Removal Notification Form available on the Board's website, [www.petroboard.org](http://www.petroboard.org). As an alternative, the owner may submit a copy of the narrative portion of the closure report, or a copy of the removal permit that has been signed and dated by the UST inspector.

## **If USTs are removed and new USTs are installed at a facility, will coverage transfer?**

Coverage will transfer to the new USTs provided it is demonstrated the USTs were placed into the same cavity from which USTs were recently removed and ownership of both the removed and installed USTs is the same. Demonstration can be made by submitting to the Board a copy of the site map detailing the location of the removed and installed USTs.

## **If tanks are removed during the year, are fees pro-rated?**

No. Fees are assessed annually and full payment is required for all petroleum USTs under ground at any time between July 1 and June 30.