



DOVE
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Information

Oil and diesel storage

Anyone storing oil in containers greater than 200 litres above ground at commercial sites or more than 3500 litres on a domestic site will be affected by The Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations 2001. These regulations currently only apply to England. Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales will bring in similar regulations soon.

The standards required by the Regulations include

- Making sure that all tanks, drums and containers are strong enough to store oil without leaking or bursting under pressure.
- Installation of a bund or tray (for secondary containment) to catch any oil leaks from the container, any related pipe work and equipment.
- Containers other than drums must be of sufficient capacity to hold 110% of the total contents of the container. If more than one container is being stored, the bund should be able to hold 110% of the largest container or 25% of the total storage capacity, whichever is the greater.
- Making sure that containers are positioned away from impact or collision risks. Barriers or bollards will help protect the storage area from damage.
- Building a bund that does not have any holes, gaps or drains in it and making it secure for at least 20 years.
- Keeping all valves turned off when not in use and keeping the vent pipe and other related equipment within the bund.
- Recommendations for building a roof to stop any rain getting into the bund.
- Making sure that any discharge pipes are fitted with a nozzle and an automatic shut-off device.
- Protecting all underground pipe work from damage and having adequate leak detection facilities.
- Installation of inspection covers for underground pipe work.

Who needs to comply?

- Nurseries that have installed new oil storage facilities since 1st March 2002.
- Existing oil stores that have a 'significant risk' of leakage should have complied since 1st September 2003.
- All remaining existing stores need to comply from 1st September 2005.

(A 'significant risk' is oil storage located within 10 metres of a watercourse or 50 metres of a well or borehole).

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The regulations **do not** apply to the following

- On premises that are used as a single private dwelling, storing 3500 litres or less. Building Regulations do apply for new and replacement tanks.
- On premises used for refining oil or its onward distribution.
- Where oil is stored in a building or totally underground.
- The agricultural use of oil on farms. This storage is subject to the Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) Regulations 1991.
- Waste mineral oil

Bund construction

Information on construction (using masonry or concrete) can be found on the Environment Agency website.

Go to http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business//444251/444731/ppg/?version=1&lang=_e

Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the PDF files.

Alternatively, call us and we can send either of these files via email.

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