



You as a Responsible Party in the Petroleum Remediation Program

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) Petroleum Remediation Program has been established to protect human health and the environment from the dangers associated with leaking petroleum storage tanks. Leaking tanks pollute drinking water, generate harmful and explosive vapors, and contaminate streams, rivers, and lakes.

The MPCA is responsible for minimizing the environmental impact of leaking petroleum tanks. The agency does this by enforcing the law that requires people responsible for these releases to investigate them, and if necessary, clean up the leaking petroleum products.

You have received a letter because the MPCA has identified you as a person responsible for a petroleum release, or you are someone who has volunteered to accept this responsibility. Although this responsibility is yours, a big part of our job is to help you meet this responsibility effectively.

You will almost certainly need to hire an experienced environmental consultant to begin investigating your petroleum release. This is perhaps the most important decision you will make in this process. If you choose the consultant wisely and oversee his or her work carefully, much as you would a building contractor who was working on your home, the investigation and cleanup should proceed smoothly.

To help you cover the costs for this work, the Minnesota Department of Commerce administers the Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund (Petrofund). The Petrofund reimburses eligible applicants for a portion of the costs associated with investigating and/or cleaning up contamination from leaking petroleum storage tanks. Consultants and contractors who perform these services must be registered with the Petrofund. Staff at the Petrofund (651-215-1775 or 1-800-638-0418) can provide you with more information about the program.

The MPCA has assigned a project manager to you. You or your consultant can contact the project manager whenever you have questions. This will help ensure the work your consultant performs meets MPCA's requirements as defined in MPCA's Petroleum Remediation Program guidance documents.

For More Information

Consultant guidance documents for underground storage tank/aboveground storage tank release investigation and cleanup are available on our website at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/jsri80e>.

If you are purchasing, selling, or developing property that is contaminated with petroleum, assistance is available through the Petroleum Brownfields Program. Visit our website at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/foyp80a>, or call 1-800-657-3864 and ask to speak to a Petroleum Brownfields staff person.