

# You as a responsible party in the Petroleum Remediation Program

You have received a letter because the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has identified you as a person responsible for a petroleum storage tank release, or you are someone who has volunteered to accept this responsibility. Although the responsibility to investigate and clean up the release is yours, a big part of our job is to help you meet this responsibility effectively.

## About the MPCA's Petroleum Remediation Program

The Petroleum Remediation Program protects human health and the environment from the dangers associated with leaking petroleum storage tanks. Leaking tanks contaminate drinking water, streams, rivers, and lakes, and generate harmful and explosive vapors.

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.

## How to get help

You first need to hire an experienced environmental consultant to investigate 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.

**Find a consultant:** Consultants and contractors who perform these services must be registered with the Department of Commerce's Petrofund program. The Petrofund program provides a list of registered consultants at <https://mn.gov/commerce/industries/fuel/petrofund/>.

**Get financial help:** The Petrofund also reimburses tank owners, operators, and volunteer property owners a portion of the costs associated with investigating and cleaning up contamination from leaking petroleum storage tanks. Apply for reimbursement at <https://mn.gov/commerce/industries/fuel/petrofund/reimbursement.jsp>. For more information about the Petrofund program, call 651-539-1515 or 1-800-638-0418.

**Questions?** 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 the MPCA's requirements.

## For more information

Consultant guidance documents for leaking petroleum storage tank investigations and cleanup are available on our website at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/cleanup-guidance>.

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/waste/brownfields>, or call 651-296-6300 and ask to speak to a Petroleum Brownfield staff person.