

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704
(802) 828-1138

PETROLEUM CLEANUP FUND FACT SHEET

April 2025

What is the Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF)?



The Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF) can help pay for cleaning up fuel leaks from storage tanks (both aboveground and underground) on your property. This includes things like oil, gasoline, and other petroleum products.

How do I know if my costs are covered by the PCF?

The PCF might help cover the cleanup costs if your insurance won't. Here's what you need to do:



1) Contact your insurance company and file a claim.



- File a claim with your insurance company for the cleanup costs.
- Before the PCF can approve payment, you need to send some paperwork to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), including:
 - A complete copy of your insurance policy*, including any documents (such as endorsements) that were in place when the leak happened.
 - A letter from your insurance company explaining whether they will cover the costs. This letter should include:
 - The date of the leak, claim number, policy details, and the adjuster's name and signature.

2) Get approval for cleanup costs before starting work.

- Once a leak is found, report it to DEC and hire an Environmental Professional to inspect and clean up the leak.
- Your Environmental Professional must send DEC a plan and cost estimate for approval before starting any work. The costs must follow the PCF's approved rates (which you can find online).
- You will get an email once the costs are approved.

3) Pay the deductible.



- You will need to pay a deductible before the PCF will cover any costs.
- The amount depends on the type of leak. You can check the deductible amount here: [PCF Deductibles](#); a summary table is also included on the next page.
- The PCF will also have a maximum amount they will cover for each type of tank.

4) PCF coverage stays with the property.

- If the property is sold, the new owner can still use the PCF to clean up the same leak. The deductible payment can be transferred to the new owner.

Questions? Contact: For sites - Matt Moran, PCF Fund Manager (matt.moran@vermont.gov; 802-522-5729). For spills – James Donaldson, Spill Program Manager (james.donaldson@vermont.gov; 802-4777-2632).

* If there is more than one entity that holds an insurance policy (such as an owner and operator), both policies must be submitted.

Vermont Petroleum Cleanup Fund Deductibles
10 V.S.A 59 §1941

Type	Deductible
Commercial/ Retail USTs (Category 1 Tank), Maximum Reimbursement \$1,240,000	
- Double walled or Single walled- Either taken out of service or abandoned prior to July 1, 1985	\$10,000
- Single walled lined that meet 10V.S.A §1927(f)	\$25,000
Residential / Farm USTs, Maximum Reimbursement \$1,000,000	
- Heating oil tank – Any size	\$250
- Motor Fuel Tank less than or equal to 1,100 Gallons	\$250
- Motor Fuel Tank more than 1,100 gallons	\$1,000
Commercial / Public Building Heating Oil USTs (as defined in 20 VSA §2730), Maximum Reimbursement \$1,000,000	
- Tank less than or equal to 1100 gallons	\$250
- Tank more than 1100 gallons	\$10,000
Aboveground Storage Tanks	
- Commercial, max reimbursement \$50,000	\$1,000
- Residential/ Farm, max reimbursement \$50,000	\$250
- Bulk Storage, max reimbursement \$1,000,000	\$10,000



VT DEC - Petroleum Clean-Up Fund