

**TO:** Fleetwood Building Inspections **ATTN:** Robert  
**FROM:** Rick Hughes, Victoria Tank Service Ltd. (250) 385-8221  
**RE:** Underground storage tanks (USTs) and proper disposal of the contents

Many homeowners may be unaware that oily water/liquids in existing UST's **MUST** have a **MANIFEST** of disposal—as oily water is classified as a **hazardous waste**. The manifest is through Ministry of Environment, Environmental Quality Branch, phone (250) 356-5044.

This waste **CANNOT** be removed from the premises unless the tank contractor is **Licensed to Transport Hazardous Waste**. The Ministry of Environment issues this license after passing an extensive written test and posting a \$10,000.00 bond. Vehicles transporting this waste must be insured for \$5,000,000.00.

With such qualifications required there are tremendous amounts of this tank waste being dumped illegally into drains, bushes, and other areas unknown. This has been going on for so many years that the true amount of illegally dumped tank wastes is totally unrealized.

Sludges and oily sand from USTs are also classified as a special waste, and as such **MUST** be barreled and have a Manifest of disposal through a licensed company. Again, as with the oily water disposal, **UNLICENSED** companies (and there are **SEVERAL**) handling this oily sand/sludges are doing so **ILLEGALLY**. The Manifest is a legal document and should be kept with the homeowners' papers.

What many homeowners do not realize is that it is the **HOMEOWNER'S** responsibility to have the UST on their property dealt with through a **LICENSED TO TRANSPORT** company. It is also the homeowner's responsibility to have a Manifest of disposal for **ALL** wastes from the UST on their property. Doing otherwise is **ILLEGAL** and **FINES** of up to **\$200,000.00 AND/OR SIX MONTHS IS JAIL** are in place for not using a licensed company in dealing with USTs.

There is a website under the Environmental Management Act that informs the public in the matters and what their responsibility is pertaining to the removal and inertion (filling in-place) of USTs.

There are licensed companies with valid LT numbers, and again it is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure the company doing UST work on their property has been licensed to do so. The company should also have a BC Generator Number. These numbers are required to remove, transport, and dispose of oily wastes from USTs.

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Also, companies doing UST work on these properties are **REQUIRED** to be in good standing with WCB, and have a registered WBC number. Homeowners can request a Letter of Standing from WCB. WCB requires **ANY** company doing UST work anywhere have a valid **CONFINED SPACE ENTRY TICKET**. This ticket permits workers to cut open and gain interior access to properly clean inside USTs. Once again the homeowner is responsible to make sure the company doing UST work on the property have these requirements.

Homeowners must be made aware of these legalities and laws pertaining to UST removal and inertion. It would also benefit **ANY** homeowner that the company doing UST work on their property carry **POLLUTION** and **LIABILITY** insurance, as each and every UST job is different and you can never be too safe.

Following are some names and numbers that homeowners can call to see if the company doing UST work on the property is licensed. Calls should be made **BEFORE** any work begins. **ANY** company can **CLAIM** (in the phone book) to be the underground tank specialist—but can they claim to be a legal, legitimate, licensed company.

Grace Kelly (250) 356-5044  
Doug (250) 387-2049  
Bernie McKay (250) 751-3100  
Alex (250) 751-3191

These people will be able to provide the website address showing licensed companies permitted to do UST work.

**NOT** on the list — Capital City Tanks, Nova Oil Tanks & Services, Shamrock Heating, Westshore Tanks, K&D Hauling

**ON** the list — Victoria Tank Service Ltd. Our website is [www.victoriatankservice.ca](http://www.victoriatankservice.ca).