

# Oil Spills and Farms: Protecting your Business Easy as 1-2-3!

Oil spills can damage the water resources you need for farming operations and create costly cleanup problems for your business. A Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan will help you prevent spills and be prepared if a spill accidentally happens.

**You need an SPCC Plan if:** An oil spill from your farm could reach water and you store oil (such as diesel, gasoline, hydraulic oil, lube oil, crop oil or vegetable oil, etc.) in: Aboveground quantities of more than 1,320 gallons; *or* Completely buried tanks with more than 42,000 gallons of oil.

**You do not need an SPCC Plan if:** You store less than 1,320 gallons of oil aboveground or less than 42,000 gallons below ground.

## Determining your SPCC planning option is as easy as 1-2-3!

**1**

Add up the oil storage capacity of each aboveground tank on your farm (only count tanks 55 gallons or larger in capacity).

When adding up the capacity, use the maximum volume of the container (as if it were full), not the actual amount of oil stored in the container.

**2**

If your farm has 10,000 gallons or less of aboveground storage capacity; and in the 3 years before developing and certifying your plan you had no oil spills to water larger than:

- 1,000 gallons in a single spill OR
  - 42 gallons each from two spills within any 12-month period,
- then your farm is a “Tier II” farm.

Create a full SPCC Plan that you may self-certify.

**3**

If your farm meets the criteria in **2** and has no aboveground oil storage containers with a *capacity greater than 5,000 gallons*, then your farm is a “Tier I” farm.

Use the shorter SPCC Plan Template to create your SPCC Plan that you may self-certify.

Update your SPCC Plan before **May 10, 2013!** Don't have an SPCC Plan? Develop one now!  
Take advantage of the planting and growing off-season to develop your Plan.

## SPILLED OIL?

- 1** Activate your SPCC Plan procedures to prevent the oil from reaching water, then clean up the spill. Call 9-1-1 if there is a risk of fire or explosion.
- 2** Notify the **National Response Center (NRC) at 800-424-8802** if you have an oil spill to water.
- 3** Notify your EPA Regional office in writing and your State Oil Pollution or Environmental Agency, if the amount of oil spilled to water is: more than 42 gallons on two different occasions within a 12-month period; or a single spill of more than 1,000 gallons.

**Need more information or want to download the SPCC Plan template, examples, and other resources?**  
Visit the SPCC for Agriculture Website at: [http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/spcc\\_ag.htm](http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/spcc_ag.htm)

DISCLAIMER: If you have more than 10,000 gallons of aboveground storage capacity, you will need a Professional Engineer to review and certify your SPCC Plan. Not all states allow self-certification for purposes of state requirements and many states have different or additional spill prevention and reporting requirements; check with your state. The information provided here only gives a brief overview of SPCC and is not meant to cover every situation. See the Website for more information.