

Fact Sheet:
Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Program

Overview

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently implemented the Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) pilot initiative in eight states to help agricultural producers comply with revised regulations issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The SPCC pilot is intended to prevent and mitigate fuel and oil spills on agricultural operations.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is implementing the SPCC pilot initiative to provide technical and financial assistance to help agricultural producers comply with EPA's SPCC regulations. Approximately \$3 million has been made available for the initiative. NRCS will help producers develop or update spill prevention plans that avoid and mitigate on-farm oil spillage. SPCC plans must be in place no later than **November 10, 2011**.

Two application periods will be held for the pilot initiative. Deadlines are **January 28, 2011**, and **June 3, 2011**.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) SPCC Pilot Initiative

An EQIP pilot initiative will help landowners address EPA requirements. Through the EQIP pilot, funds will be available for landowners to work with engineers to develop an SPCC Conservation Activity Plan. This plan is required for applicants with above ground storage of more than 10,000 gallons. In addition, financial assistance is available through the EQIP pilot for individuals to implement the secondary containment facility identified in the SPCC plan. A maximum payment of \$2,500 will be provided upon completion of the SPCC plan and \$10,000 for the secondary containment facility.

Overview of EPA's SPCC Program

Farms that meet the following criteria must comply with SPCC regulation.

Farms in operation on or before Aug. 16, 2002, must maintain or update their existing SPCC plans by the Nov. 10, 2011, deadline. This assumes that a plan is in place. If a farm operation began after Aug. 16, 2002, a plan must be prepared and in use by Nov. 10, 2011. In addition to the criteria above, a farm is included in SPCC if:

- Oil or oil products such as gasoline, lube oil, diesel fuel, hydraulic oil, crop oil, vegetable oil, or animal fat are transferred, used, or consumed; and
- More than 1,320 U.S. gallons is stored in aboveground containers or more than 42,000 U.S. gallons is stored in completely buried containers; and
- Oil could reasonably be expected to discharge to waters of the U.S. or adjoining shorelines, such as interstate waters, intrastate lakes, rivers, and streams. The nature and flow properties of oil when combined with a rain event must be considered.

Additional Information

Contact your local NRCS North Dakota field office to inquire about or apply for the EQIP SPCC pilot. For more information about SPCC, please refer to the EPA SPCC web page at <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/index.htm>.

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