

SPILL BUCKET OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY Division of Waste Management – Underground Storage Tank Program Telephone: 701-328-5166 • Fax: 701-328-5200 • Email: ndust@nd.gov Website: https://deq.nd.gov/wm Rev: 2/2025

A spill bucket is installed at the fill pipe to catch fuel drips and spills that may occur when disconnecting the delivery hose. Proper maintenance is essential to ensure effective spill containment during fuel deliveries. Spill buckets are not meant for long-term fuel storage and should be emptied promptly, with contents disposed of properly.

Spill Bucket Operation and Maintenance Checklist

- Keep your spill bucket empty of liquids. Spill buckets are designed to temporarily contain small product spills released during delivery and are not for long-term storage of product. Accumulated debris or liquid reduces containment capacity and ability to prevent spills. Empty spill buckets immediately and properly dispose of the contents.
- Inspect your spill buckets every 30 days as part of your walkthrough inspection. Repair or replace damaged spill buckets and remove liquid and debris. Damaged spill buckets will not contain spilled products.
- A single-walled bucket must be tested for tightness by a UST contractor every three years. Based on this test, the contractor may suggest repairs or replacement.
- A double-walled spill bucket must be inspected for tightness every 30 days and the results recorded. To do this, locate the liquid gauge in the spill bucket and note if it indicates liquid. If a liquid is detected, a UST contractor will need to be contacted. A typical gauge looks like the following:





Indicates Normal Operating Conditions

Indicates Liquid in the Interstitial Space