Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program
2003 Annual Report

Top Left: Groundwater remediation may require the installation of extensive recovery systems.

Top Right: Excavation and disposal of contaminated soil is the traditional method of remediation at leaking underground storage tank sites.

Bottom Left: Active gas stations may utilize alternative technologies, such as chemical injections, to remediate contaminated soil and groundwater in place.
For the third straight year, the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program closed more sites than were reported. With this significant accomplishment, 18,498 acres in Illinois have been remediated since 1989 bringing us closer to our federal cleanup goal. In addition, $69.1 million was reimbursed to tank owners and operators for their corrective action costs in 2003.

The Illinois EPA recently filed new regulations and amendments to the current regulations with the Illinois Pollution Control Board to streamline the program. We believe the proposed new regulations and amendments will expedite underground storage tank cleanups in Illinois and reduce cleanup costs.

Next year will be the 15-year anniversary of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program in Illinois and we are proud of the results we have seen over the years. Our goal of assisting tank owners and operators in remediating their sites and obtaining reimbursement has helped Illinois become a leader in timely and efficient environmental revitalization.

Renee Cipriano
Leaking underground storage tank site remediation in residential areas is particularly challenging, often due to limited space.

A total of 1120 acres of land was remediated in 2003, with 18,498 acres remediated since 1989.
# About The Program

Illinois entered into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. EPA in which the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal administer a comprehensive Underground Storage Tank Program at the state level. The Illinois EPA administers the remedial investigation, corrective action, and reimbursement portions of the state program, while the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal administers the preventative and permitting side of the program and regulates daily operation and maintenance of underground storage tank systems, including oversight for tank removals.


## Site Remediation Program

| Leaking underground storage tank sites subject to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 731, 732 or Public Act 92-0554, may elect to conduct remedial activities under the Site Remediation Program, provided the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program requirements are satisfied. |

## Federal Facilities

| Federal Site Remediation Section addresses leaking underground storage tanks that are found within its authority. As with the Site Remediation Program, any site subject to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 731, 732 or Public Act 92-0554 may conduct remedial activities under the Federal Site Remediation Section, provided the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program requirements are satisfied. |

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency maintains a Web site which contains a wealth of information about the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program. Included are a database with information on more than 22,000 reported underground storage tank releases in the state, publications explaining the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program, annual reports, technical and budget/billing forms, applicable regulations, links to related web pages, as well as recent developments in the program. Visit the Web site as new material is added regularly. The Web site can be accessed at:

http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/lust/index.html

Collection of soil samples for site investigation is performed by the IEPA’s Office of Site Evaluation.
Regulated Substances

The Leaking Underground Storage Tank Section oversees and reviews remediation activities at sites for which releases of regulated substances from an underground storage tank system were reported to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Regulated substances include petroleum and hazardous substances. Petroleum substances include gasoline (leaded and unleaded), diesel fuel, fuel oil, jet fuel and used (waste) oil, which comprise 96 percent of the total incidents reported. Hazardous substances include raw chemicals such as benzene, methyl ethyl ketone, xylene and many others, which comprise three percent of the incidents reported. The remaining one percent of incidents reported is a combination of petroleum and hazardous substances.

Owner or Operator Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Regulations</th>
<th>Site Classification</th>
<th>Site Investigation</th>
<th>TACO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to September 13, 1993</td>
<td>35 Ill. Adm. Code 731</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes*</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 13, 1993-June 23, 2002</td>
<td>35 Ill. Adm. Code 732</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes*</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On or after June 24, 2002</td>
<td>Public Act 92-0554</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*May perform Site Investigation pursuant to Public Act 92-0554 by submitting an elect-to-proceed form provided and prescribed by the Illinois EPA.
No Further Remediation Letter Restrictions

The decision whether to accept restrictions or remove the remaining contamination in order to qualify to receive a No Further Remediation Letter is made by tank owners and operators. Type of restrictions include:

**Engineered Barrier**: Engineered barriers block the exposure pathway and may include asphalt or concrete pavement, permanent structures (e.g., buildings) or other material approved by the Illinois EPA. An engineered barrier must be properly maintained to prevent exposure to any remaining contamination.

**Environmental Land Use Control**: A document that is recorded on the chain of title of an off-site property that imposes some type of restriction.

**Groundwater Use Ordinance**: A groundwater use ordinance, adopted by local government, prohibits the installation and use of potable water supply wells, either within the entire community or a portion of the community.

**Groundwater Use Restriction**: A groundwater use restriction prohibits the installation and use of potable water supply wells, usually at the site. Restrictions may also include environmental land use controls for other properties that may have been impacted by the site release and would, therefore, prohibit groundwater use off-site in place of a local ordinance.

**Highway Authority Agreement**: A highway authority agreement is between the tank owner or operator and the highway authority and prohibits the use of groundwater and limits access to soil contamination under a highway right-of-way.

**Industrial/ Commercial Restriction**: An industrial/commercial land use restriction prohibits residential use of the site.

Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives

The primary goal of remediation is to manage contamination to prevent harm to human health and the environment. The Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives regulations in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 742 provide more flexibility to site owners or operators in the development of remediation objectives by allowing the use of a risk-based, site-specific approach. These remediation objectives protect human health while taking into account site conditions and land use scenarios. Site owners or operators decide how to best manage their sites within Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives guidelines, subject to the Illinois EPA review and approval. By exercising these choices, site owners or operators may reduce remediation costs, return more sites to productive use, and hasten property redevelopment, while still remaining in full compliance with environmental laws and regulations.
Underground Storage Tank Fund

Federal underground storage tank regulations require petroleum underground storage tank owners or operators to demonstrate their financial ability to remediate tank releases and to pay for damages to third parties. Federal underground storage tank regulations allow, but do not require, states to establish publicly financed underground storage tank funds. Illinois chose to set up such a fund in 1989 to help tank owners or operators pay for cleaning up leaks from petroleum underground storage tanks and to meet their financial assurance requirements. Illinois generates money for the Underground Storage Tank Fund through a $.003 per gallon motor fuel tax and an $.008 per gallon environmental impact fee, both of which are due to expire in 2013.

The Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal determines the eligibility for an owner or operator to seek reimbursement from the Underground Storage Tank Fund and the applicable deductible.

Since its inception, the Illinois EPA has approved payment of 18,367 claims at 7,132 sites worth $565.9 million. In 2003, the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Claims Unit reviewed 2,759 claims for 1,646 sites resulting in a record $69.1 million reimbursed from the Underground Storage Tank Fund at 1,438 sites. Each site submitted an average of 1.5 claims, worth an average of $55,022. The average amount approved for each site in 2003 was $48,082.

The Leaking Underground Storage Tank Claims Unit reviews requests for payment submitted by eligible tank owners or operators seeking reimbursement from the Underground Storage Tank Fund. In order to qualify for reimbursement, costs must be:

- for materials and/ or services associated with corrective action activities; and
- reasonable and must not exceed the minimum requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and the applicable regulations.

Reimbursement For 2003
(Millions of Dollars)

The amounts shown above represents the total amount reimbursed for each category in 2003.
## Who To Contact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Services Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Illinois Pollution Control Board                  | Phone: 217-524-8500  
www.ipcb.state.il.us                                                   | To obtain copies of environmental regulations.                                    |
| Illinois Emergency Management Agency              | Phone: 217-782-7860  
Toll Free: 1-800-782-7860                                                | To report releases from an underground storage tank system.                        |
| Office of the State Fire Marshal                  | Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety  
1035 Stevenson Drive  
Springfield, Illinois  62703  
Phone: 217-785-5878  
www.state.il.us/osfm                                                   | For questions regarding:  
Underground storage tank system installation, upgrade or removal  
Leak prevention or detection  
Aboveground storage tanks  
Complaints about suspected underground storage tank system releases  
Financial responsibility requirements  
Underground Storage Tank Fund eligibility and deductible               |
| Illinois EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank Section | 1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois  62794-9276  
Phone: 217-782-6762  
Toll Free: 1-888-299-9533  
Fax: 217-524-4193  
www.epa.state.il.us/land/lust/index.html            | For questions regarding:  
Reported releases  
Reviews of plans, reports and budgets  
Leaking Underground Storage Tank remediation  
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program regulatory requirements  
Request for copies of publications and forms (also available on the Web site) |
| Illinois EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank Claims Unit | 1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois  62794-9276  
Phone: 217-782-6762  
Fax: 217-557-1165                                                    | For questions regarding reimbursement and claims.                                  |
| Illinois EPA Freedom of Information Act Unit       | 1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois  62794-0276  
Attn: Jan Ogden, #24  
Phone: 217-782-9878  
Fax: 217-782-9290  
Email: FOIA@epa.state.il.us                              | To obtain copies of plans, reports and correspondence on leaking underground storage tank sites. |
| Illinois EPA Field Operations Section              | Phone: 217-785-8604  
Fax: 217-524-1991                                                      | To report environmental complaints.                                                |