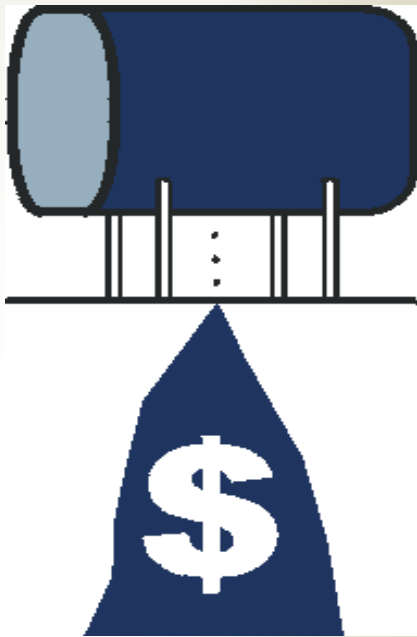


## AST RECAP

- An AST is classified as an aboveground tank that has a volume greater than or equal to 55 gallons.
- An AST cannot be used for the storage of oil, etc. unless its material and construction are compatible with the material stored.
- All ASTs containing oils or fuels should have secondary containment of a volume of at least 110% of the largest container's volume.
- An AST should be visually monitored frequently and integrity testing may need to be conducted every 5-7 years.



Picture from the following web site: [www.idahopstf.org/](http://www.idahopstf.org/)

### Lafayette Airport Commission

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## Protecting the Vermillion River: Your Recreational Area

### Part 24 – Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs)

Lafayette Airport Commission  
Lafayette Regional Airport



Picture from the following web site: [nonpoint.deq.louisiana.gov](http://nonpoint.deq.louisiana.gov)



## What containers are classified as Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs)?

An AST is a storage tank that is aboveground, regardless of whether it is used for the storage of petroleum products, hazardous waste, or other materials. ASTs are usually classified as containers that have a volume equal to or greater than 55 gallons. Some examples of ASTs are shown above.

## AST Facts

An AST cannot be used for the storage unless its material and construction are compatible with the material stored and conditions of storage such as temperature.

All ASTs containing fuels or oils (petroleum or cooking) should be constructed so the tank is double walled or has a secondary means of containment. Secondary containment should be provided for the entire capacity of the container with a minimum of

an additional 10% freeboard to contain precipitation. Secondary containment is required if you store 1320 gallons or more of oil at your site (see Brochure #16 Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plans).

When draining rainwater from AST containment areas the following requirements must be met:

- The release valve on the containment area is normally be closed;
- The water present in the containment area is inspected for contaminants prior to discharge;
- Contaminated water should be properly handled and not released from the containment area; and
- Once the above requirements are met water may be discharged. The release valve must be closed immediately upon completion.



Picture from the following web site: [www.ndt.sgs.com](http://www.ndt.sgs.com), and [stevenspoint.com](http://stevenspoint.com)

## AST Testing and Monitoring

Each aboveground container must be tested for integrity on a regular schedule, and whenever material repairs are made as per the applicable industry standard. The frequency and type of testing depends on the container size and design. Testing is usually conducted every five to seven years. Some types of integrity testing are as follows: hydrostatic testing, radiographic testing, ultrasonic testing, acoustic emissions testing, or another system of non-destructive shell testing.

The AST should be visually monitored regularly along with the integrity testing. AST visual monitoring should include frequent inspect of the outside of the container for signs of deterioration, discharges, or accumulation of oil inside containment areas. Records should be kept of all monitoring and testing conducted for each AST.

Information for this brochure is from the Federal Facilities Environmental Stewardship and Compliance Assistance Centers website: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/assistance/facilitytour/tanks/aboveground/>