

doesn't it make you think?

If a leak or spill occurs:

- Contain leaks where possible and prevent oil from entering drains or watercourses by using earth or sand to absorb it.
- Collect and dispose of contaminated materials correctly in order to reduce the risk of further pollution.
- Never wash oil into the drainage system or use detergents to disperse it.
- In the case of spills from oil tanks, notify your oil supplier immediately.
- Report any spillages to Environmental Protection via the hotline number.

Remember

Causing or knowingly permitting pollution of controlled waters is an offence under the Water Pollution (Jersey) Law, 2000. There are however strong defences that may be available to persons acting in a responsible manner.

A copy of the law can be obtained from the States Greffe bookshop or it can be viewed at www.jerseylegalinfo.je

Information for this leaflet has been obtained from the Environment Agency, UK.

**Water
Pollution
Hotline
Tel:
709535**



Oil Pollution Prevention Checklist

General Advice

- Never dispose of oil into a drain.
- Contact Transport and Technical Services for advice on disposal of used oils Tel: 445509. Store used oils in their original containers, wherever possible. They should be clearly labelled and stored away from potential damage, corrosion or vandalism.
- Small amounts of cooking oil can be soaked up with bread and used as bird food.

Oil Storage Tanks

- Ensure that the tank is supported on a flat concrete base in a safe and secure area with easy access for deliveries, checks and maintenance. Keep a record of any inspections or maintenance work.
- Tanks should be integrally bunded and/or located in a catchment pit (bund) that holds 110% of the contents. This catchment pit should be oil and watertight and free from debris.
- Check your oil tank and ancillary equipment regularly for signs of damage or corrosion. Check for obvious signs of leakage or an unusual smell of oil. Ensure that pipework is well protected, and where possible, above ground.
- Be alert to possible leaks by monitoring your oil consumption and usage pattern.
- Check your home insurance policy you may not be covered for loss of oil or pollution clean up costs.
- Tanks should be clearly labelled to identify contents and other relevant information, which must include details of what to do in the event of a spill and the Water Pollution Hotline number.

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oil pollution
and the aquatic environment

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States
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Oil Pollution— are you aware of it?

Oil is a highly visible form of pollution as it floats on the water's surface. The most common types of pollutant are domestic heating oil, engine oil, cooking oil and fuels such as petrol and diesel. The most frequently reported spills are losses of heating oil from domestic heating systems.

If oil enters a stream or the sea it can damage plants and wildlife and ruin habitats. Much of Jersey's public water supply comes from surface watercourses. Water polluted by oil is rendered unsuitable for this use and for agricultural abstraction. A stream that is polluted with heating oil, for example, may take many months to recover.

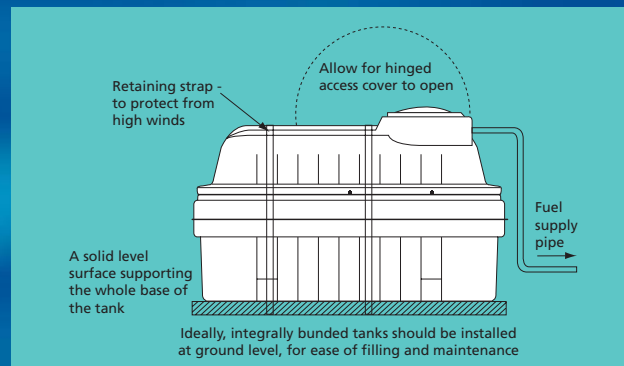
A spill of oil to the ground can migrate downwards through the soil and result in groundwater pollution. Groundwater sustains streams during times of low flow and up to 10% of the population in Jersey use groundwater as their only source of drinking water. Once groundwater is polluted with oil, it may remain that way for many years. Clean-up is difficult, costly and may never restore the groundwater to its previous state.

Statistics have been compiled since 2000 on the number and type of pollution incidents reported to Environmental Protection in Jersey. Between 2000 and 2005 an average of 136 pollution incidents were reported each year, 40% (2 in 5) of which were oil related. Many of these incidents could have been avoided and this leaflet sets out some measures that can help to prevent pollution.

Oil Storage guidelines—oil tanks

General

- Tanks should be sited at ground level on a flat base in a safe and secure area protected from accidental impact and damage, with easy access for deliveries and maintenance.
- An OFTEC registered technician should carry out tank installation and decommissioning.
- The oil tank should be type tested to a recognised standard and obtained from a reputable manufacturer. There are also a number of alarm systems on the market that can alert a tank owner to any potential problems with the oil tank.
- The Building Bye Laws (Jersey) 2004 and associated guidance must be complied with. Advice can be obtained from Planning and Building Services Tel: 445508.
- If possible, avoid siting the tank within 10m of a watercourse or within 50m of a borehole or well.
- Regularly inspect your tank, bund and pipework for signs of corrosion, splitting and damage.
- Note your oil consumption pattern and delivery records. An unexplained change may indicate a leak.
- Make sure that the tank is clearly labelled with information on how to respond to a leak; the manufacturers instructions and capacity of the tank; the oil supplier; what the tank contains and the Water Pollution Hotline Number Tel: 709535.



Example of a top fill/top offtake bunded tank

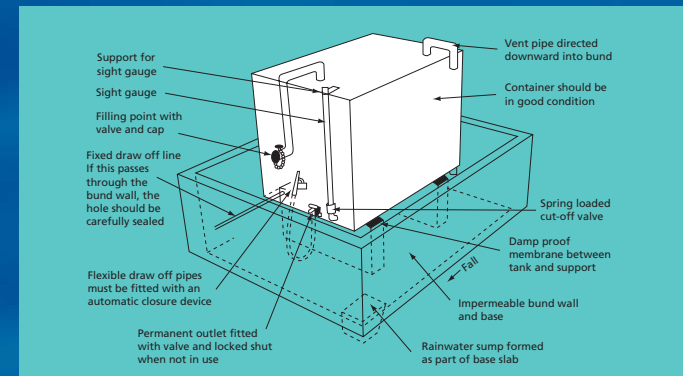
Secondary Containment

- Oil tanks must be integrally bunded and/or be contained in a sealed concrete or masonry catchment pit (bund).
- The bund should be able to contain at least 110% of the full contents of the tank.
- A catchment pit should be impermeable to oil and water, have no direct outlet and should be kept free of rainwater and debris. Any valves, filters, sight gauges, vent pipes and other ancillary equipment should be situated within the catchment pit. Seal the point at which any pipe-work passes through the wall.

Sight gauges, pipework and filters

- If the tank has a sight gauge it should be firmly secured in a upright position and have an automatic shut off valve. As an alternative, tanks can be fitted with an electronic measurement device.
- Filters should not be covered with soil or vegetation as this may promote and conceal corrosion.
- Site all pipework above ground and position it to minimise the risk of accidental damage. If pipework is underground, the use of double skinned pipes or ducting is recommended. Protect underground pipe-work from physical damage such as that caused by excessive surface loading. Mark the location of underground pipes on your site plans.

Example of an oil tank in a catchpit



Water Pollution Hotline Tel: 709535