

The removal of a UST has many components to it including:

- Notification to the State of Vermont about the UST removal;
- Removal of useable fuel from the tank;
- Excavation of the tank;
- Cutting and cleaning the tank;
- Disposal of waste associated with the cleaning of the tank;
- Assessment of the tank and tank area to determine if the tank leaked at any point;
- Written report to the homeowner and the State of Vermont UST program with any additional recommendations.

Verterre realizes that as a home buyer/seller, you will have many questions and concerns about the process of removing an underground storage tank and its potential consequences. Please see the Frequently Asked Questions and feel free to call us at 802-654-8663 and ask for Rod (x13), Steve (x12) or Martha (x11).



## Other Capabilities

Verterre is capable of providing expertise on the following types of projects:

- Underground Storage Tank Removal and Assessments
- Phase I/Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ASTM & AAI)
- Geoprobe® Drilling
- Groundwater Sampling & Reporting
- Hazardous Waste Remediation
- Spill/Emergency Response and Cleanup
- Dewatering
- Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plans (SPCC)

## Contact Us

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### *The Verterre Group* *Environmental Scientists and* *Field Services* *Heating Oil Storage Tank Removal*

Many residential and commercial properties involved in real estate transactions have underground heating oil storage tanks (USTs). As more insurance companies deny coverage to prospective buyers due to the presence of these tanks, real estate sales are held up or lost. Hiring a qualified professional environmental consultant familiar with State of Vermont Underground Storage Tank Guidelines is key to closing your UST properly and in a timely manner, to make your sale date.

The Verterre Group (Verterre) has been providing environmental services to public and private sector clients in New England and New York since 1993. The Principals: Martha Roy, Rod Lindsay II and Steven Chase have worked in the environmental arena for many years and are committed to helping you through this process.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. *How much is the tank removal going to cost?*

To answer this question we will come to your home and visually inspect the location of the tank for accessibility purposes. We need to determine the size of the tank, how much fuel is in the tank and can the tank be removed by excavation or does it need to be closed in place. An in-place closure may occur if the tank is located near a foundation or located under a slab. The State of Vermont must approve in-place closures and therefore Verterre will contact them on your behalf to receive this permission.

### 2. *What does the State of Vermont require?*

The State of Vermont requires that out of use Underground Storage Tanks be removed within 12 months. If you suspect that your tank is leaking it must be immediately removed. Underground Storage Tank removals must have a site assessment performed by a qualified consultant.

### 3. *Are there any programs in place to help with these costs?*

The State of Vermont has a grant program that aids homeowners with up to \$1,000 towards the removal, replacement, or upgrade of USTs. Additional information can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/ust/ustgrantapplication.htm>

### 4. *I know my tank has quite a bit of useable oil in it – what will happen to this oil?*

All usable oil will be removed from the tank prior to its closure. This can be transferred into an aboveground storage tank (AST) or properly transferred to another location for reuse. We can make arrangements with your fuel oil supplier to do this prior to tank closure.



### 5. *What happens to the tank?*

The area around the tank will need to be excavated. The excavation work can be performed by an excavating contractor or by hand depending upon location. We have reputable contractors that we work with on a regular basis who perform this type of work. We will then cut an access hole into the tank and clean out residual oily sludge and liquids. These wastes are placed in a 55-gallon drum for offsite disposal. The tank is then removed from the ground. Once the tank is excavated it is brought to a recycler to be used as scrap metal.

### 6. *What kind of documentation do I receive after the tank has been removed?*

Once the tank is out of the ground, we will then perform an assessment of the tank cavity to determine if any contamination is present in the surrounding soil. This assessment consists of visual analysis and the evaluation of soil samples taken from the cavity. The tank cavity can then be backfilled to grade. The whole tank closure process is documented with photographs.

During this closure process we also collect data on any potential receptors. This means that we will locate and note the location of things like streams, wells and drains. All of the data that we collect from the receptor analysis, tank cavity assessment and site photographs will then be used to document the closure process in a report. A copy of this report will be sent to you and the Underground Storage Tank Department at the State of Vermont. We can also provide a copy to your realtor or a potential buyer with your permission.



### 7. *I think my tank may be leaking – how does that affect my property?*

The tank cavity assessment determines if there is contamination present within the surrounding soils. This could be from a leaky tank, a leak in the piping system or from past overfills by your fuel oil company. If contamination is observed during the assessment, the State of Vermont will require that a site investigation be performed to determine the extent and degree of the contamination on the property.

The State of Vermont has a Petroleum Clean-up Fund (PCF) to aid in the costs of this investigation provided no insurance coverage is available. Residential heating oil tanks are eligible for up to \$1,000,000 of coverage after a \$250 deductible is paid by the home owner.

### 8. *How long is the process?*

We schedule tank closures as quickly as possible. Once scheduled, the tank removal is usually ½ to 1 day process. The UST report will be submitted within 2 weeks of the tank closure.

The cost for performing the tank closure varies from home to home but we would be happy to provide you with a quote. We can also provide you with information about the Vermont Underground Storage Tank Grant Program. It is Verterre's hope that this introduction will lead to consideration of our firm in meeting your upcoming environmental project needs. We would welcome the opportunity to submit additional qualifications or proposals. If you feel that a meeting will assist you in considering our firm, we will make ourselves available at your convenience. Feel free to call us at 802-654-8663 and ask for Rod (x13), Steve (x12) or Martha (x11). We can also be reached by email at [info@vterre.com](mailto:info@vterre.com).

