



# HEATING OIL TANK SERVICES



## DECOMMISSION A TANK BEFORE IT BECOMES A PROBLEM

Buying or selling a home that is currently being heated by fuel oil? During a transaction, property owners are required to disclose if an underground oil tank exists on the property. However, a property owner may not be aware of a tank's existence.

A buyer should perform due diligence to determine if a tank is present. When you acquire a property with underground oil tanks, you become responsible for the tank and any environmental impact it may have caused. A tank scan utilizing state-of-the-art subsurface locating equipment and property records research will determine if an older, abandoned tank exists on the property. Active tanks should be measured and sampled.

Determining whether tanks are present on a property and knowing their precise status is an important step in gauging the value of a property. Correctly functioning active tanks and properly decommissioned tanks protect the property's occupants from potentially harmful health effects, and protect the environment from pollutants as well.

### FAST FACTS

- As time passes, the more likely it becomes that an underground heating oil tank will begin to leak. DEQ recommends underground tanks be used no longer than 20-25 years. Many tanks in the Portland area were installed in the 1940s and 1950s and are 55 to 65-years-old or older.
- How big of a problem is this? More than 30,000 leaking heating oil tanks have been reported to the DEQ since the mid-1980s, when record-keeping began.
- Soil Solutions decommissions more heating oil tanks in Oregon than any other company. Since our founding in 1998, we have provided tank services at approximately 7,000 properties in the Portland Metro area.



OUR COMMITMENT: **Service, Integrity, Safety.**

## NOT SURE IF YOU HAVE A TANK?

We can do a tank locate for you. Using specialized equipment, we will scan your property to determine if there is or was a tank present, and provide a written report of what we found.

### IF YOU HAVE A TANK:

If there is a tank, we will recommend soil samples to determine whether or not the tank is leaking.

If the tank is not leaking, the next step is to decommission it. Several methods of decommissioning are available. Soil Solutions will assist you in determining if In Place, Triple Rinse and Slurry, or Complete Tank Removal is appropriate for your site. With a clean decommission, a statement will be sent to the property owner and a copy will be filed with the DEQ which will register the tank under the Voluntary Decommission Certification Program.

**We're here to help you through the decommissioning process by making it as easy as possible for you.**



**Soil Solutions is a DEQ certified Heating Oil Tank Service Provider. A DEQ licensed Supervisor is present at every job site.**

### IF A TANK HAS LEAKED:

As with decommissioning, multiple clean-up options are available, depending on the concentration of contamination present in soil sample results. For low level sites, decommissioning can proceed and a simple report is submitted to DEQ for certification. When contamination levels exceed DEQ Action Levels, an open file is created at the DEQ and Corrective Action is required to close the file.

Soil Solutions has full capabilities in all phases of DEQ approved clean-up options, from simple report writing and Risk Based closure assessments to excavation, transport, and disposal of contaminated soils. Based on our years of experience, we can make the proper recommendation that ensures maximum safety for the property owner and the environment, and can provide paperwork at the end of the job to certify that the project is closed.

**We are the largest provider of this service in the Portland metro area.**



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