

# Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Compliance Factsheet

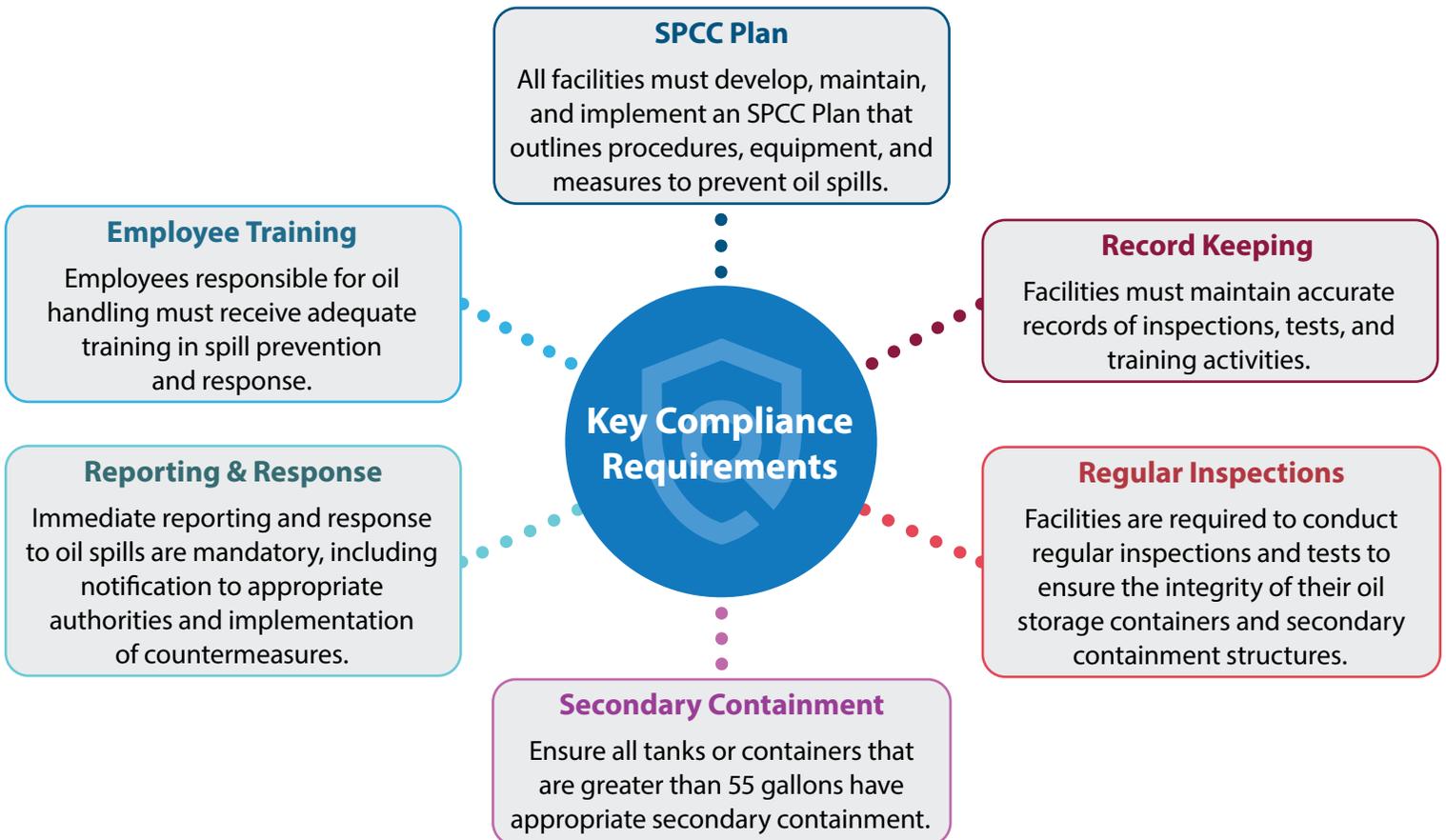
## Does the SPCC Regulation Apply to Your Facility?

Generally, the SPCC regulation applies if your facility meets all of the following criteria:

- Engages in drilling, producing, gathering, storing, processing, refining, transferring, distributing, using, or consuming oil.
- Has the potential to discharge oil in quantities that may be harmful into navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.
- Has a total aggregate capacity of aboveground oil storage containers greater than 1,320 gallons.

### How is oil defined by the SPCC regulation?

- Oils and greases including petroleum, fuel oil, sludge, synthetic oils, mineral oils, or oil refuse.
- Fats, oils, or greases of animal, fish, or marine mammal origin.
- Vegetable oils including oils from seeds, nuts, fruits, or kernels.



## Noncompliance May Result in EPA Enforcement!

Region 9 conducts routine inspections to ensure compliance with the SPCC regulation. Noncompliance may result in enforcement actions including monetary penalties and corrective actions.

# What is the Purpose of the SPCC Program?

The Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) program is critical in preventing oil discharge incidents to Waters of the United States. Oil discharges can...

- Endanger public health
- Devastate natural resources
  - Impacts to public drinking water supplies
  - Harm to aquatic plant and animal life and habitat
  - Damage to shorelines, fishing grounds, and recreational areas and beaches
- Disrupt the economy



The SPCC regulation is authorized under the Clean Water Act (CWA) which is the principal federal statute for protecting surface waters and shorelines from pollution.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do I have to submit my SPCC Plan to EPA?

No, EPA does not require SPCC Plan holders to submit their plan to EPA. SPCC facilities are required to develop, certify, and fully implement their SPCC Plan. EPA may request a SPCC Plan for review as part of a facility inspection or following a spill incident.

### Do I have to have my SPCC Plan certified by a Professional Engineer (P.E.)?

Yes, if your facility's total oil storage capacity exceeds 10,000 gallons. If your facility's capacity is 10,000 gallons or less, you may be eligible to self-certify your plan under certain [conditions](#).



### Which industry standards apply to my facility for inspections, testing, and record keeping of my bulk oil storage containers?

The API 653 standard applies to field-erected bulk storage containers and the STI SP001 standard applies to shop-fabricated bulk storage containers. In certain cases, a P.E. may develop alternative inspection and testing protocols for a facility. For more information, click [here](#).



### Do any other federal, state, or local agencies have authority to implement the SPCC Rule?

No. The SPCC Program is not delegated to any other agency or entity. The State of California has the Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA), which has many similarities to the federal SPCC rule.

## For Technical Guidance and Compliance Assistance, Please Contact:

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For more information: [www.epa.gov/oilspill](http://www.epa.gov/oilspill)



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