

DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

POLICY ON DISPOSITION OF UNDERGROUND HEATING OIL TANKS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that institutions develop a policy for disposal of problem Underground Heating Oil Tanks. These tanks remain exempt from EPA regulations, but it is prudent that the Diocese of Marquette issue a policy on how to deal with problem tanks in the most economic and environmentally responsible fashion. If the parish/mission/institution has an underground heating oil tank, consideration should be given to removing the fuel oil and filling the tank with an inert material, such as sand or removing the tank from the ground. The following steps should be taken in regard to underground heating oil tanks.

- 1. Written requests to dispose of underground fuel oil tanks should be submitted to the Diocesan Building Commission, c/o Pastoral Office, P. O. Box 550, Marquette, MI 49855. Requests should include a proposal from a qualified contractor which should set forth the entity's experience in handling underground fuel oil tanks, cost of disposition of the tank and proof of adequate insurance. The proposal should also include what the contractor proposes to do in the handling of the tank in the event of the discovery of a leak or release into the soil.
2. The Diocesan Building Commission will review the proposal and issue an approval/disapproval letter to the parish or institution, along with any recommendations. A request for a Hold Harmless Agreement and Proof of Insurance will be included in the approval letter. The Hold Harmless Agreement and Proof of Insurance must be completed and received by the Diocesan Building Commission prior to removal of any tank.
3. This policy is to be adhered to regardless of the cost of removal of the heating oil tank.

This policy is applicable only to Underground Heating Oil Tanks. If dealing with gasoline or some other substance, the Diocesan Building Commission should be contacted for advice on how to proceed.

Effective October 28, 1996

By means of this general decree, I hereby establish the above policy as particular law within the ecclesiastical region of the Diocese of Marquette and as binding upon the faithful of the same Diocese of Marquette, according to the norms of the Code of Canon Law (1983).

May 22, 2000
Date

Most Reverend James H. Garland
Bishop of Marquette

Reverend Alex K. Sample
Ecclesiastical Notary