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Recipe Corner



Oreo Cream Cheese Cookies

Ingredients:

- 3 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 8 Tbsp salted butter, softened
- 3/4 c. + 2 Tbsp all purpose flour
- 10-12 Oreo cookies, crushed (keep some larger bits)
- 1 Tbsp vanilla extract

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, then beat in butter.
2. Add sugar and mix until light and fluffy.



GABRIEL
Environmental Services

MARCH 2017

IEPA Website Causes UST Fund Deductible Confusion



Underground Storage Tank (UST) owners may be confused by the Illinois EPA's (IEPA's) website, which hasn't been updated with current information regarding the UST Fund deductible.

In June 2010, IEPA lowered the deductible for all new eligible Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Incidents to \$5,000. Prior to that change, deductibles range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 depending on the number of tanks and date of registration.

For all LUST Incidents declared before June 8, 2010, the following deductibles apply:

A \$10,000 deductible applies, except in the following situations:

1. A deductible of \$15,000 shall apply if one or more, but not all, of the USTs were registered prior to July 28, 1989, and the State received notice of the confirmed release on or after July 28, 1989.
2. A deductible of \$50,000 shall apply if any of the USTs were registered prior to July 28, 1989, and the State received notice of the confirmed release prior to July 28, 1989.
3. A deductible of \$100,000 shall apply if none of the USTs were registered prior to July 28, 1989 (except in cases where the tanks were not registered prior to July 1, 1992, and are used to store heating oil for consumptive use only on premises other than a farm or residential unit).

The Illinois EPA's [online UST Fund Guide](#) correctly lists these deductibles, but the new \$5,000 deductible for all LUST Incidents after June 2010 is hidden on a different fact page that is difficult to find on the new IEPA website ([Leaking USTs - Publications & Regs - Public Act 096-0908 - Fact Sheet 3](#)).

Add in vanilla and mix until well combined.

3. Add flour gradually and mix until well combined.
4. Fold in Oreos, then cover bowl and place in refrigerator for 1 hour.
5. Preheat oven to 375* and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
6. Scoop out two tablespoons of dough and roll into 2 inch ball.
7. Place onto cookie sheets and press down lightly.
8. Bake for 9-11 minutes - the edges will start to brown but the cookie will soft.
9. Remove from oven onto cookie rack and let cool.

*2nd Place - Cookie Contest
Jocelyn Escobar*

\$5,000 Deductible Applies to All Incidents Declared After June 8, 2010

The confusion about eligibility and high deductibles for some sites deterred many tank owners from cleaning up their LUST Incident and obtaining a No Further Remediation (NFR) letter from IEPA. As a result, Illinois streamlined their deductible qualifications and reduced it to a more manageable \$5,000.

This change states that no matter what date an eligible petroleum tank was registered, any LUST Incidents declared after June 8, 2010 are subject to a \$5,000 deductible.

Eligible tanks include releases of:

- Fuel as defined in Section 1.19 of the [Motor Fuel Tax Law](#)
- Aviation Fuel
- Heating oil
- Kerosene
- Used oil that has been refined from crude oil used in a motor vehicle, as defined in Section 1.3 of the Motor Fuel Tax Law.

Other eligibility requirements do apply, as outlined on the [EPA's Tank Fund Guide website](#). For example, any tanks out of service prior to January 1, 1974 or residential heating oil tanks are not eligible for the Fund.

The UST Fund is available to help owners and operators clean up spills related to leaking tanks. It is funded by these same owner/operators as a per-gallon tax on all petroleum products purchased.

For more information about how to close a [LUST Incident](#) and access the UST Fund, contact Nancy Valenta at 773-486-2123 or nvalenta@gabenv.com.



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