

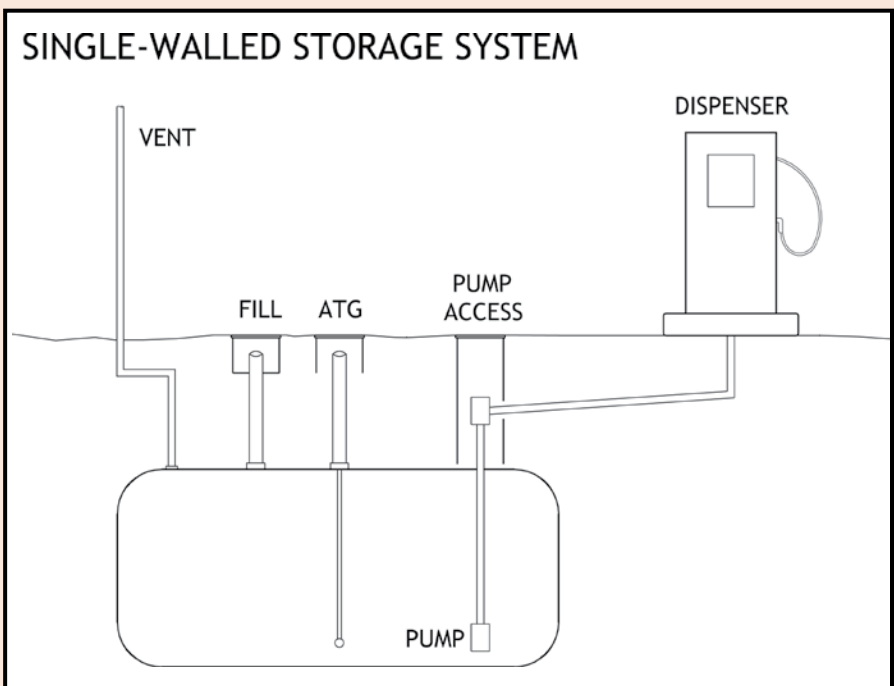
# TANKS: SINGLE-WALLED

**T**oday, most underground fuel storage tanks in Maine are double-walled. However, there are still some older single-walled tanks that were installed before September 16, 1991. Double-walled tanks provide a safety net to keep a leak out of the environment. With single-walled tanks, you are walking a tightrope without a net—any leaks go straight into the environment. If you have single-walled tanks, it is particularly crucial that you follow leak detection and monitoring requirements diligently.

For single-walled tanks, your leak detection options are:

- Perform Daily Inventory and do annual Statistical Inventory Analysis. (See the *TankSmart* Daily Inventory & SIA module.)
- OR
- Use an Automatic Tank Gauge to monitor the level of fuel in your tank and detect leaks of 0.2 gallon per hour, together with an appropriate leak detection method for the piping. (See the *TankSmart* Automatic Tank Gauge module and the Piping: Pressurized Pumping Systems, Double-Walled, or Suction Pumping Systems modules.)

**NOTE:** Single-walled tanks are made of either steel (subject to corrosion) or fiberglass-reinforced plastic (FRP). If you have steel single-walled tanks, they will have cathodic protection to prevent corrosion. (See the *TankSmart* Cathodic Protection for Tanks & Piping module.)

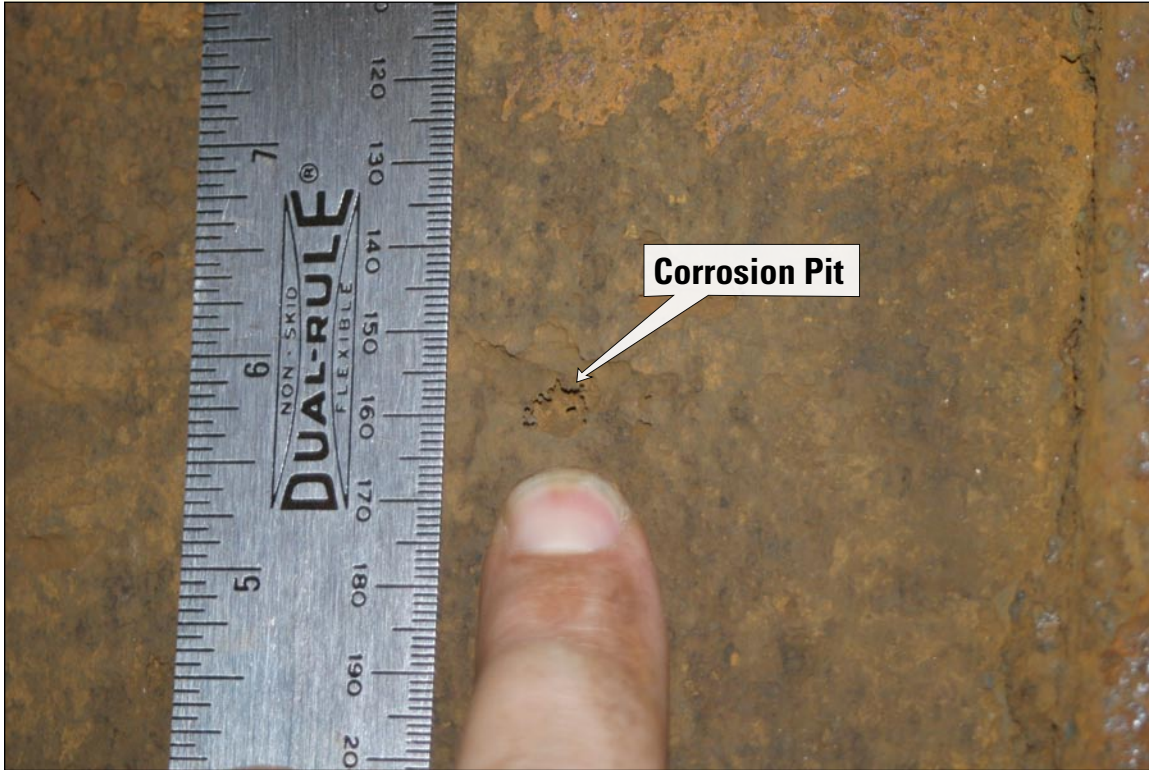


Courtesy of David Maturo

**Single-walled storage systems have no safety net. Catching leaks early is particularly important if you have a single-walled storage system.**

**With single-walled tanks, you are walking a tightrope without a net—any leaks go straight into the environment.**

**With single-walled tanks you must report all leaks, no matter how small they may seem, to the DEP within 24 hours of discovery.**



Courtesy of Marcel Moreau Associates, Portland Maine.

*Single-walled tanks are buried directly in the ground. Even very small leaks are released directly into the environment, where they can cause significant contamination if they are not detected in a timely fashion.*

**Report evidence of a possible leak to the DEP's Tanks Unit**

**207-287-2651**

**or call the 24-hour Spill Hotline**

**1-800-482-0777**