



Frequently Asked Questions: Mobile Storage Tanks

BUREAU OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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RESOURCES

Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 93

http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/090/93

Storage Tanks Website

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/PetroleumHazStorageTanks.aspx

What types of tanks are aboveground mobile storage tanks?

Moveable tanks, portable tanks, tank wagons, and tank vehicles are all considered aboveground mobile storage tanks.

What is a moveable tank?

A moveable tank is an aboveground storage tank that meets all of the following:

- Has a liquid capacity of 110 gallons or more.
- Is used for storing and dispensing liquid motor vehicle fuel.
- Is supported on skids, wheels without axles, or similar means and is not mounted upon a tank vehicle or chassis capable of road travel.
- Is designed and constructed in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 93.250](#).
- Is not intended for permanent placement.

What is a portable tank?

A portable tank is a tank or intermediate bulk container that meets all of the following:

- Aboveground closed vessel that has a liquid capacity of 110 gallons or more.
- Is not otherwise defined in [Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93](#).
- Is equipped with skids, mountings or accessories to facilitate handling of the tank by mechanical means.
- Is not intended for fixed installation or for highway vehicle fueling.

What is a tank wagon?

A tank wagon is a tank that meets all of the following:

- Is affixed to a trailer system with at least one axle.
- Is constructed in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 93.610\(1\)](#).
- Has a liquid capacity of 1,100 gallons or less.
- Is used for storing and dispensing liquid motor vehicle fuel for equipment used on the site, or is used for storing other liquids regulated under Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93.

What is a tank vehicle?

A tank vehicle is a tank truck or trailer system designed and constructed to comply with NFPA 385. NFPA 385 recognizes three types of tank vehicles:

- A tank truck in which the cargo tank is supported entirely on the truck chassis.
- A tank semi-trailer in which the cargo tank is supported by both the truck chassis and trailer chassis.
- A tank full-trailer in which the cargo tank is supported entirely on the trailer chassis.

What is vehicle fueling?

Vehicle fueling means the process of adding motor fuel to the engine fuel supply tank to motor driven vehicles, including aircraft, watercraft, on- or off-road vehicles, and vehicles on rails.

What are the requirements for fuel dispensing systems using aboveground mobile tanks?

- Tank Vehicles:
 - Tank vehicles may remain on the customer's property for a maximum of 5 days unless any of the following conditions apply:
 - The tank vehicle is used to fill aircraft in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 93.650](#), or aircraft support equipment.
 - Prior to the tank vehicle arriving at the customer's property, the local fire department has approved conditional use for more than 5 days.
 - The tank vehicle is converted to a stationary tank in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 93.330](#).
 - Tank vehicles may be used only for transferring fuel into a fixed-tank system, or for fueling of vehicles and equipment in the following situations:
 - With the expressed permission of the local fire department.
 - Fueling of vehicles and equipment on the customer's premises and in connection with the business, for the following uses:
 - Landfill and mine, pit and quarry operations.
 - Highway or runway construction, including associated material processing sites.
 - Construction projects for buildings, structures and utilities.
 - Logging and woodcutting operations.
 - De-watering operations.
 - Farming operations included under the definition of farming.
 - Trail grooming.
 - At recycling centers and refuse centers.
 - Fueling of fleet vehicles or locomotives, also known as "wet-hose fueling", in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 96.610\(2\)\(f\)](#).
 - Fueling of watercraft under emergency conditions in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 93.640\(5\)](#) or as allowed under NFPA 30A section 9.6.
 - Fueling of aircraft in accordance with [Wisc. Admin. Code ATCP § 93.650](#).
 - Tank vehicles must be constructed in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 96.610\(3\)\(d\)](#).
 - Fuel may be transferred into a tank vehicle only from a fixed storage tank system, except where this Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93 permits otherwise for emergencies.
 - All operations involving tank vehicles shall be in accordance with all of the requirements of [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 96.610\(3\)\(f\)](#).
- Moveable tanks:
 - A movable tank may be used on the customer's property for a maximum of 24 months.
 - Movable tanks may be used only for fueling of vehicles and equipment in the following situations:
 - Landfill and mine, pit and quarry operations.
 - Highway or runway construction, including associated material processing sites.
 - Construction projects for buildings, structures and utilities.
 - Logging and woodcutting operations.
 - De-watering operations.
 - Farming operations included under the definition of farming.
 - Trail grooming.
 - At recycling centers and refuse centers.
 - At power generating stations.

- Moveable tanks (continued):
 - Movable tanks may not be used for any retail sales, or for fueling vehicles unless the vehicles are dedicated to the operation of the specific project or facility.
 - Movable tanks must be constructed in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 96.610\(2\)\(e\)](#).
 - Operations involving moveable tanks must meet the requirements of [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 96.610\(2\)\(f\)](#).

- Tank wagons:
 - Tanks wagons may stay on the premises for a maximum of 24 months.
 - The use of tank wagons is limited to the fueling of vehicles and equipment in the following operations:
 - Landfill and mine, pit and quarry operations.
 - Highway or runway construction, including associated material processing sites.
 - Construction projects for buildings, structures and utilities.
 - Logging and woodcutting operations.
 - De-watering operations.
 - Farming operations included under the definition of farming.
 - Trail grooming.
 - Fueling of heating or cooling units on semi-trailers.
 - Tank wagons may not be used for fueling vehicles unless the vehicles are dedicated to the operation of the specific project or facility.
 - Tank wagons may not be used for general fueling of fleet vehicles or any retail sales.
 - Tank wagons must be constructed in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code ATCP § 93.610\(1\)\(e\)](#).

- Other Mobile Tanks
 - Written approval must be obtained from DATCP prior to dispensing fuel from any other mobile tank.

Are mobile tanks required to be registered with DATCP?

The following types of tanks are exempt from registration requirements:

- Tank vehicles.
- Tank wagons, portable tanks and movable tanks that are located on a property for less than 24 months.
- Tanks that are located at a US EPA superfund site.

Are mobile tanks required to be installed by a registered company and certified technician?

No, mobile tanks are not required to be installed by a registered tank specialty firm and certified aboveground tank system installer.

Do mobile tanks require plan review and approval?

The following types of tanks are exempt from plan review and written approval requirements:

- Integral fuel supply tanks of a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, mobile power plant or mobile heating plant.
- Aboveground tanks which have a capacity of less than 1,100 gallons and which store Class IIIB liquids other than used oil.
- Tank wagons, tank vehicles, or movable tanks that are used for vehicle fueling operations under [Subchapter VI of Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93](#).
- Aboveground tank systems that store hazardous liquids which are not also flammable or combustible liquids, if the construction is supervised by a qualified engineer.
- Portable tanks that are not used as fixed tanks.
- Tanks that are located at a US EPA superfund site.
- Aboveground tanks which are used at a farm premises or construction project in accordance with [Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 93.630](#), and which meet all of the following conditions:
 - Have a capacity of less than 1,100 gallons.
 - Are located at least 40 feet from either the buildings and structures listed in Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 93.630(2)(a), or important buildings or structures.
- Fuel supply tanks which are used for a mobile power plant or mobile heating plant and which meet all of the following requirements:
 - The tank system is built and operated in accordance with a national standard.
 - The tank system is intended to be at the site for a period of 24 months or less.
 - The tank system has an aggregate capacity of less than 1,100 gallons.
 - The tank system does not use any Class I liquids.

Questions? Please contact us at (608)224-4942, option 4 or email datcpweightsandmeasures@wi.gov.