

Temporary Tank Requirements for Aboveground Storage Tanks

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emporary aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) store product at a site for more than 30 days, but less than one year. Temporary ASTs must comply with Minn. R. 7151.4100. This fact sheet outlines the requirements.

Size

Temporary tanks with a capacity greater than 500 gallons and within 500 feet of class 2 surface water must meet these requirements. (A class 2 surface water includes waters used for recreation, fishing, fish culture, or bathing.) Also, all other temporary tanks greater than 1,100 gallons must meet these requirements.

Registration

According to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) policy, temporary tanks do not have to be registered.

Labeling

The exterior of temporary storage tanks must be clearly labeled with the words "Temporary Storage" and the date storage began at the site.

Signs

A facility that does not have a person at the site 24-hours-a-day must have a sign with the name, address, and telephone number of the facility owner, operator, or local emergency response unit. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous place and legible from outside any secondary containment area.

Secondary containment

Temporary ASTs must have 100 percent containment capacity of the largest tank in the secondary containment basin. An additional ten percent containment capacity is required if exposed to precipitation. Basin materials must be compatible with the products stored in the tanks. Secondary containment basins constructed with soils must meet the minimum the permeability matrix to satisfy the requirements in Minn. R. 7151.6400, subp. 5.

Maintenance guidance

To minimize corrosion or rust on the tank exterior and maintain the integrity of the secondary containment area, keep tanks, containment areas, and substance transfer areas free of cracks, open seams, open drains, and vegetation other than grass. Precipitation also needs to be removed from the secondary containment areas to ensure proper containment volume.

Need more information?

Visit the AST Program at www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/ast.html.
The site has forms, fact sheets, and other information about ASTs and AST requirements.

You can also call the MPCA at 651-296-6300 or 1-800-657-3864.