



Tote Tank Requirements for Aboveground Storage Tanks

This fact sheet explains the criteria needed to meet the definition of a tote tank. According to Minn. R. 7151.1300 tote tanks are exempt from the aboveground storage tank (AST) rules. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) will not require tote tanks to be registered.

Tote tanks

Tote tanks are generally small (1,100 gallons or less) and owned by the product supplier. The supplier fills a tank with a product and delivers the filled tank to the facility or user. The facility places the tote tank near the area where it will be needed and may move the tank to supply more than one piece of equipment.

When the tote tank is empty, the supplier replaces the empty tank rather than refilling it on site. The same tank does not stay at a given facility for any longer than it takes to use the product in the tank. It may take anywhere from a few days to a few months to use the product in the tank.

Tote tank criteria

Tote tanks are ASTs which are:

- not filled or refilled at the site of use
- 1,100 gallons or less in capacity
- located at the site of use for less than 180 days

Tanks that do not meet this definition including all three criteria would be considered regulated ASTs and would need to be registered (if 500 gallons or greater) and meet the requirements of Minn. R. ch. 7151.

Spills and releases from tote tanks

The exemption of tote tanks from the AST rules does not relieve the owner or operator of the facility from the statutory obligation to report and recover all released materials from these tanks. Owners and operators of facilities using tote tanks are still covered under Minn. Stat. § 115.061 (duty to report and recover releases).

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.