



Requirements for Small Tanks Near Surface Water

Aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) located within 500 feet of a Class 2 Surface Water, greater than 500 gallons in capacity, and less than or equal to 1,100 gallons in capacity must meet labeling and secondary containment requirements (according to and Minn. R. ch. 7151). This fact sheet explains these requirements.

All other ASTs that are 1,100 gallons or less in capacity and more than 500 feet from a Class 2 Surface Water are exempt from Minn. R. ch. 7151. However, these ASTs must be registered if 500 gallons or greater in capacity.

Class 2 Surface Water

Class 2 Surface Water includes all Minnesota waters that are or may be used for fishing, fish culture, bathing, or any other recreational purpose and where it may be necessary to protect water or plant life as well as the public health, safety, or welfare.

Labeling requirements

Tanks must be labeled indicating the substance stored and the capacity. If there is more than one tank, each tank must have a unique tank number.

Tank lines must be labeled so that the person controlling the substance transfer can readily identify which line is connected to which tank.

A facility that does not have a person at the tank 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 outside any secondary containment area.

Secondary containment

These tanks near surface water must comply with all secondary containment requirements in Minn. R. ch. 7151. These tanks must have 100 percent containment capacity of the largest tank in the secondary containment basin. An additional ten percent containment capacity is required if the containment area is exposed to precipitation. Tanks installed before November 1, 1998, had to meet the containment requirement by November 1, 2003. Tanks installed after November 1, 1998, must have this containment at installation. The containment area must also meet substance compatibility, permeability, and design requirements outlined in Minn. R. 7151.5400 or 7151.6400.

Registration

These tanks must be registered with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) using the AST Notification Form within 30 days of a tank change, the addition of a new tank, or the removal of an old tank.

Exemptions

Tanks less than or equal to 1,100 gallons capacity and within 500 feet of Class 2 Surface Water are exempt from the substance transfer area, corrosion protection, overflow protection, monitoring, maintenance, and record retention requirements of this rule (Minn. R. 7151.7100 to 7151.7500).

Need more information?

Visit the AST Program at <http://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.
