



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

408 E Whitman Pocatello, ID 83201-6450
(208) 234-6201 ♦ Fax: (208) 233-4034
David Gates, Fire Chief
Nick Christensen, Fire Marshal



Residential Underground Storage Tanks

(Closure Process – Removal *or* Left in Place)

2018 International Fire Code 5704.2.13-14

- Purchase a permit (\$60) with the Pocatello Fire Department (phone, mail, or visit.)
- Remove all fuel from the tank and piping. Dispose of as per DEQ guidelines. Call (208) 236-6160 for local DEQ assistance. Proof of appropriate disposal may be required.
- The Pocatello Fire Department has a contact in Burley that can dispose of the old fuel for a fee.
- Where the two copper supply and vapor return lines come into the basement, crimp and seal them against leakage as close to the floor/wall as possible.

IF YOU ABANDON THE TANK IN PLACE –

- BEFORE** filling the tank with material, **make the first of two appointments necessary** with the **Fire Prevention Bureau** to verify the tank is completely empty and the copper lines are properly sealed.
- At approximately 8-12” below grade, cut the tank fill-spout **and** the tank vent (vent should be right against the house.)
- Fill the tank completely with an approved, inert solid material (sand or gravel will work.)
- On a piece of paper, note the tank size and mark the location of where each pipe comes out of the ground and keep this with the compliance records we will send. You will need to provide a location of the tank when you purchase the permit.
- Make the **second appointment** with us to verify the tank is filled with material.
- Decide on how to cap the ends of the pipe. Any of the following methods work well:
 - Fill the last 6” of pipe with concrete.
 - Take the cut-off ends to a hardware/plumbing store to fit-test various rubber caps.
- We will need to observe the sealing of the pipes **and** covering with dirt to complete the steps.

IF YOU REMOVE THE TANK –

- BEFORE** removing the tank and piping, make an appointment with the **Fire Prevention Bureau** to verify the tank is completely empty and the copper lines are properly sealed.
- Tank must be inert (non-combustible) prior to removal. A DEQ agent or a Fire Dept. representative must witness the removal of the tank.
- Recycle at a legitimate site or dispose at a place that is aware of its past use.

Upon completion of the process, we will send you or your contractor a letter of compliance, which should be kept with your home records.

For questions or appointments:

Dean Bullock
Fire Prevention Captain
208.234.6203 office
208.681.9619 mobile