

**Sam D. Heaton** *Fire Chief*

**Randy Crider** *Deputy Fire Chief*

**Jimmy Taylor** *Deputy Fire Chief*

1595 County Services Pkwy.

Marietta, GA 30008-4021

[www.cobbfire.org](http://www.cobbfire.org)



**Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services**

**Jay S. Westbrook** *Fire Marshal*

*fmoinspections@cobbcounty.org*

phone: (770) 528-8310 • fax: (770) 528-8320

## **Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office**

### ***Tank Requirements***

1. All tanks shall be permitted except those tanks with a capacity of less than 25 gallons of Class I liquids, and/or 60 gallons Class II and III liquids.
2. In addition to the requirements listed in this document, all tanks shall meet the applicable NFPA Codes and State Modifications, including but not limited to NFPA 30, 30A, 37, 58, 110, and Chapters 120-3-11, 120-3-16. The Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office currently enforces the 2003 edition of NFPA 30 and NFPA 30A.
3. Tanks shall be secured against tampering and unauthorized use. Tanks used to fuel equipment or vehicles shall be protected by a 6 foot high chain link fence, separated from the tank by at least 10 feet, and having a gate that is properly secured. A fence surrounding the entire property can suffice for this requirement.
4. Belly tanks on generators must be permitted and are considered aboveground tanks, but do not require fencing if the generator shroud is lockable to prevent tampering with the tank.
5. All aboveground gasoline tanks must be listed projectile resistant as certified by Underwriters Laboratories.
6. **Vehicle impact protection** is required for tanks as required by section 312 of the 2006 International Fire Code. Guard posts shall comply with all of the following requirements:
  - Constructed of steel not less than 4 inches (102 mm) in diameter and concrete filled.
  - Spaced not more than 4 feet (1219 mm) between posts on center.
  - Set not less than 3 feet (914 mm) deep in a concrete footing of not less than a 15-inch (381 mm) diameter.
  - Set with the top of the posts not less than 3 feet (914 mm) above ground.
  - Located not less than 3 feet (914 mm) from the protected object.

### **Permitting Procedures**

1. Unless located in unincorporated Cobb County, all tank plans shall be approved by the appropriate zoning office prior to being sent to the Fire Marshal's Office for review. The following is a list of zoning offices phone numbers:
  - Acworth 770-974-3112 • Kennesaw 770-424-8274 • Powder Springs 770-943-1666
2. To obtain a tank installation permit, schedule a plan review appointment with the Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office by calling 770-528-8310. A completed and **signed** Tank Permit application shall accompany all plans. There is a \$300.00 tank plan review fee per permit, regardless of the number of tanks. Payment must be made in cash, check, or money order only. Checks should be made out to "Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services".
3. Three sets of plans shall be submitted to the Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office for approval. Plans shall demonstrate compliance with all requirements of the appropriate NFPA standards. The following is a list of the most common items required to be included in tank plans:

- a. **Site Plan**—showing location of tank with distance from tank to buildings, property lines, other tanks, right of way, etc.
  - b. Foundation tank will be mounted on and method of securing tank to foundation.
  - c. If tank is inside of a structure, need structural plans of room, showing fire rating of walls, floors and doors, distance of tank to walls or other objects in the room. Provide engineering letter documenting room has proper ventilation to prevent dangerous levels of vapors forming or have vents piped to the outside of the structure.
  - d. **Tank specifications:** tank size, tank type, material tank is made of, normal and emergency vents, fill tube that extends within 6 inches of bottom of tank, appropriate alarms, UL listing, overflow protection and alarms, etc.
  - e. Type of piping material, if applicable.
  - f. Tank rupture containment method (diking, double wall, etc.)
  - g. Vehicle impact protection in accordance with section 312 of the 2006 International Fire Code—see additional requirements for details.
  - h. Show location of 40BC fire extinguisher, maximum 30 ft from tank.
  - i. Tank shall be labeled with type of product, i.e., DIESEL, GASOLINE, PROPANE, etc. Letters shall be a minimum six inches high on a contrasting background. Tank shall be labeled on any side a vehicle can approach it, or a minimum of two sides, whichever is greater.
  - j. Tanks shall also be marked with the NFPA 704 placard system (NFPA 30-4.6.2.1).
  - k. Plans for propane tanks need only provide site plans, tank specifications, and type of piping materials.
4. All tanks over 660 gallons must also be permitted through the State Fire Marshal's Office. The State Fire Marshal's Office is located at:
- 2 Martin Luther King, JR Drive  
Suite 620 West Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334
- Contact Jason Allen at 404-656-9453 for more information.

**Cobb County Code, Section 54-54.1.—Tanks.**

- (a) Scope.
  - (1) Section 54-54.1 shall apply to all storage and fuel tanks.
  - (2) Section 54-54.1 shall not apply to propane containers used exclusively for heating or cooking purposes for detached one- and two-family dwellings, provided the tank capacity does not exceed 1,000 water gallons.
  - (3) Section 54-54.1 shall not apply to containers of Class I liquids with capacity of less than 25 gallons.
  - (4) Section 54-54.1 shall not apply to containers of Class II or III liquids with a capacity of less than 60 gallons.
  - (5) Liquid classes are defined by NFPA 30 as adopted by section 54-54, Cobb County Code.
- (b) Zoning and protection.
  - (1) Storage and fuel tanks shall meet the requirements of NFPA 30, NFPA 30A, NFPA 52, NFPA 58 and any other applicable codes adopted under section 54-54 of this Code.
  - (2) No aboveground tanks shall be installed in residentially zoned areas, except as to any Cobb County Fire Stations that may be located in any such residentially zoned area.
  - (3) All aboveground tanks storing gasoline will be a vaulted type tank that is projectile resistant and vehicle impact resistant as certified by Underwriters Laboratories or other recognized testing labs.
  - (4) All aboveground tanks must be approved for aboveground use by Underwriters laboratories or other recognized testing labs.
- (c) Permit.
  - (1) All tanks will be permitted through the Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office;
  - (2) Plan review fee will be \$300.00 for each permit, regardless of number of tanks on the permit;
  - (3) Fines assessed for failure to obtain a permit will be \$1,000.00; and
  - (4) Fines assessed for failure to call for an inspection will be \$500.00.

*This information is provided as a service and is not all inclusive. Other requirements may apply. If you have any questions about this document, contact a Fire Protection Analyst at 770-528-8160.*